

Homework at 81 / A College for Senior Citizens Blooms

It's Never Too Late to Study Shakespeare

By Jon Jeter
Washington Post Service

NORTHFIELD, Minnesota — Spring quarter at the Cannon Valley Elder Collegium began last week. Students made their way to classes rather slowly, but hardly anyone was late. Some came in wheelchairs, others used walkers. Some steadied themselves by leaning on friends, arriving arm-in-arm with a classmate.

Blind in one eye, Julia Savina sat pitched forward in her seat, using a magnifying glass to read the course syllabus she had just been handed. The instructor prints everything in extra large type for the students in his technology class, but Mrs. Savina still needs a little help seeing.

She is 81.

Last semester, she enrolled in a course on Amish history but had to drop out when she fell and hurt her hip. The retired schoolteacher returned to her studies after four weeks of physical therapy.

"My husband died in 1995, and I really need this mental stimulation," Mrs. Savina said, easing into a chair to talk after class. "I had so much fun last term learning to write poetry, which I never thought I could do."

Gray-haired and frail, she smiles as she leans back into her chair. "You can only play so much bingo, you know."

And so it goes here at perhaps the only institution of higher education in the United States designed specifically for the aged. The students' bodies may be weakened, but their spirits are willing. If some are hard of hearing, their minds are hungry still.

The Cannon Valley Elder Collegium opened last fall in this cozy little two-college town 40 miles (65 kilometers) south of Minneapolis. A group of retired professors and academics rounded up roughly \$8,000 in government grants and recruited nearly 30 of the former faculty members who live in town to teach college-level courses with titles such as "The Drama of Henrik Ibsen," "Goethe's Faust" and "The Fur Trade in North America." No arts and crafts here.

Enrollment this quarter has jumped to about 50 students, most of whom are over 65 and many of whom are in their 80s, although no one knows for sure because "at our age, we don't go around asking people how old they are," said Ron Ronning, 68, a retired high school humanities teacher and the collegium's program director.

Collegium students can receive continuing education credits, but no grades are given, no degrees conferred. No one here is looking for any of that.

"Everyone here really wants to be here," said George Soule, a retired literature professor who is teaching "Hamlet" to eight students this quarter. "They're not looking for a better job or to further their career by being here. They're not here to impress their parents. All they want to do is learn."

At the Elder Collegium, there are no fraternities, no backpacks, no baseball caps worn backward, no hung-over students nodding off in the classroom. Students here are more likely to wear orthopedic shoes than Nikes, hearing aids than earrings. Each class lasts for eight weeks and costs \$50, and the source of students' financial aid is more likely to be a pension than a parent or a grant. Most of the students who enrolled in a course on the Depression last quarter had actually lived through it.

As America's elderly live longer, the number of people 65 or older enrolled in college courses has risen steadily over the last decade. Hazel Reinhardt, director of marketing research at the Newspaper Management Center of Northwestern University's Medill School of Journalism, said the trend was likely to accelerate in years to come as the baby



Julia Savina, above, using a magnifying glass to read course notes: "My husband died in 1995, and I really need this mental stimulation. I had so much fun last term learning to write poetry. You can only play so much bingo, you know."

boomer generation, with its higher rate of education, moved into retirement. "I think this whole area is one that is going to develop," she said.

With two highly regarded liberal arts colleges in town — Carleton and St. Olaf — the quaint, bucolic locale of Northfield is home to an uncommon brain trust: Of nearly 15,000 residents, about 150 are retired professors. A road sign on the periphery of this learned but fun-loving town bills Northfield as a place for "cows, colleges and contentment."

"Everybody here is in a book club or two," Mr. Ronning said. He said he and his wife, Betty, had attended casual group discussions held at senior citizen centers that "frankly, we found a little patronizing."

"It's as if people think that seniors are either unwilling or unable to engage in serious study. The collegium provides just that. There are assignments, and people come prepared."

THE COURSE on "Hamlet" is held at Northfield's Retirement Center. Eight students at a conference table pay rapt attention to Mr. Soule, a white-haired, animated man who lectures at a rapid-fire pace on Shakespeare.

"His characters tend to be very complex," Mr. Soule says. "They're far deeper than many people I've known in real life."

Mr. Soule engages his students in a discussion of the play's opening verse. Virtually all of the students in the classroom contribute something to the dialogue. One of Mr. Soule's students is Marilyn Will, 59, a retired schoolteacher whose former students include Mr. Soule's daughter, now 31. Widowed two years ago, Mrs. Will enrolled in two courses last quarter. She came back for more this quarter and

brought along a friend, 81-year-old Jane Eckardt.

"I have always loved education from both sides of the desk," said Mrs. Will, who first attended college 40 years ago. "I just came to class expecting to be filled up back then. Now I feel as though I have something to contribute to the class and to the discussion."

As she said this, an exaggerated grimace spread across Mrs. Eckardt's face. "It won't be any different for me," said Mrs. Eckardt, who first enrolled in college in 1934. "I still expect to just be filled up. I'm dead between the ears."

Mrs. Will smiled at her friend's familiar, self-deprecating brand of humor. The two women taught school together and have been friends for a quarter century. "Our husbands were friends," Mrs. Eckardt said. "We gave each other advice on our kids."

She leaned forward and lowered her voice. "We tried to figure out what was wrong with them."

During a break, Mrs. Will told Mrs. Eckardt she would pick up a copy of "Hamlet" for her. "I'll just shop for both of us, and you can lay the money on me later," she said to her older friend.

Mrs. Eckardt paused. "Did I remember to lay money on you for my registration?" she asked.

"Yes, you did," Mrs. Will reassured her. "That gets to be a problem when you're 81."

Mrs. Eckardt said.

At his wife's urging, 66-year-old Donald Krause enrolled in "Cultural Conversations." On Tuesday evenings, he'll debate topics such as the role of an activist federal judiciary with his peers and a group of local high school students. "This is fun," said Mr. Krause, a retired schoolteacher. "You know, most senior citizens aren't just waiting to die. We can actually discover a thing or two."

U.S. Air Traffic Routes To Get Broad Redesign

By Matthew L. Wald
New York Times Service

WASHINGTON — Hoping to cut down on delays for passengers and on the noise endured by people on the ground, the Federal Aviation Administration plans to redesign air traffic routes around the country, starting with the highly congested New York area.

The effort was disclosed by Jane Garvey, the agency's administrator, after meeting with New Jersey lawmakers who have been pressing the government for a thorough overhaul of how air traffic is handled in the region.

At a news conference Monday in Newark, New Jersey, she said that her agency had been planning since last fall to analyze the routes and to begin "with a blank piece of paper." She said the effort would begin in the region in July.

Newark had the worst air delays in the nation last year and has ranked the worst in nine of the last 14 years.

"People are sick and tired of the mess that the aviation system is in," said Senator Frank Lautenberg, who was among the lawmakers who met with Ms. Garvey. "They are terribly upset about the delays. People have missed appointments, missed conferences and missed connections."

Mr. Lautenberg also recounted a tale that will sound familiar to any airline passenger. He said that he had "gotten into airplanes that were an hour late in their departure and arrived at Newark and sat 45 minutes waiting for a gate."

Several aviation agency officials said they believe this is the agency's first plan for a nationwide review, although routes on the East Coast were redrawn in 1987. The new effort is expected to take several years and cost tens of millions of dollars, but changes could take effect before the plan is finished.

Ms. Garvey said the idea had been to focus first on the eastern United States, in an area roughly bounded by Boston, Chicago and Miami, because its airspace is the most congested and most prone to delays.

FAA officials said that the redesign had been under discussion for months, but that no public announcement had been made and none had been planned. It was only after Mr. Lautenberg and Representatives William Pascrell Jr. and Robert Menendez — all New Jersey Democrats — escorted Ms. Garvey to a lecture outside the Port Authority administration building at Newark International Airport that the plans became public.

Airspace around Newark has been rearranged before, mostly in an effort to limit noise. A six-month experiment began a month ago, with planes that leave Runway 22 making a shallow right turn 2.3 miles (4 kilometers) from the end of the runway, to keep them over an industrial area of Elizabeth, Rahway and Carteret and away from residential areas.

And the federal agency occasionally changes higher-altitude routes, including arrival and departure patterns, to try to reduce congestion.

But controllers say congestion is growing, especially in the New York region.

"We have a portion of airspace that is just oversaturated," said Joseph Fruscella, a vice president of the National

Air Traffic Controllers' Association. "We have to start doing something, because traffic is not dying down; it is increasing."

The aviation administration would like to change the way planes are directed in flight. Most of them fly on air routes stacked out from radio beacons to radio beacons, on paths that resemble railroad tracks.

Rather than going from city to city as the crow flies, they sometimes go many miles out of their way. Eventually, the agency would like to move to "free flight," with each plane picking its own route and controllers intervening only when a conflict seems imminent. But that system would take major improvements in agency computers.

The review is unusual because it covers all altitudes. When the aviation administration reviews flight path changes to reduce noise, it considers planes at altitudes up to 18,000 feet, or more than three miles.

But if it changes patterns below this level, it will also have to change routes above that level, experts say, because planes will be crossing the 18,000-foot level in different places.

Newark, La Guardia and Kennedy Airports together handle nearly 5,000 flights a day, nearly a tenth the national total. While it can take hours to move from one airport to another on the ground, they are too close for comfort from the air, and their traffic patterns distort each other's.

But Newark, with huge growth in the last few years, is the worst of the three.

TRAVEL UPDATE

Snow Cripples Moscow

MOSCOW (AP) — The heaviest mid-April snowfall in the Russian capital in at least a hundred years continued to wreak havoc Tuesday, clogging traffic and grounding flights at Moscow airports.

By Tuesday morning, Moscow was covered with some 30 centimeters (12 inches) of snow that began falling Sunday night, the weather forecast service said.

Pilots' Strike: Day 9

TOKYO (AFP) — A pilots' strike grounded several All Nippon Airways international flights Tuesday for the ninth straight day.

The airline said it was losing 200 million yen (\$1.5 million) a day as the dispute over wages continued.

Near-collisions between aircraft have doubled since the early 1990s, Britain's Civil Aviation Authority said. There were 26 such incidents involving commercial aircraft in 1996, up from 11 in 1995 and 13 in 1992 and 1993, the agency said.

Olympic Airways canceled more flights at Athens due to worker protests at Greece's troubled national carrier.

Tarom, the Romanian national airline, said it would add a stop in Satu Mare, in western Romania, to its Sunday Bucharest-New York flight. (AP)

Gore Lists Priorities for Airline Safety

By Matthew L. Wald
New York Times Service

WASHINGTON — Vice President Al Gore announced priorities for airline safety Tuesday to help the airline industry and the Federal Aviation Administration focus on such efforts as more rigorous checks of engine parts, new equipment to help planes avoid flying into mountains and a campaign to increase seat-belt use.

The announcement was intended to help meet a goal set last year by the White House Commission on Aviation Safety and Security: to reduce fatal accidents by 80 percent.

A high-ranking administration official said that the effort was aimed at choosing among improvements already under consideration.

"We're running around trying to do a zillion different things," the official said, "and

as the winds blow in different directions, our priorities change. We've got too many things on our plate to do."

Another official stressed that the priority list being established was "a living document" that would change if a new crash showed another safety problem.

FAA officials said they wanted to rely more heavily on analysis of past accidents and incidents, rather than simply the most recent crash, in setting priorities in the future but that they would have to improve their databases.

Jane Garvey, the administrator of the FAA, has made a similar point about setting priorities. She said in December that when she arrived at the agency, she found more than 1,000 safety recommendations on hand.

Among the improvements announced was a program to inspect engine parts more

closely to prevent accidents in which rotating parts fly apart, flinging turbine blades like missiles into passengers in the cabin or into crucial mechanical parts.

In addition, Mr. Gore said that the agency would promulgate a rule requiring planes to carry new equipment for warning of possible collisions with mountains. Several big airlines have already promised to install such equipment, but smaller ones have not.

The new equipment is intended to eliminate a class of accidents called "controlled flight into terrain," in which a plane, usually flying through darkness or clouds, is piloted into a mountain because of navigation errors.

Planes already have systems that look down and warn the pilot if the plane seems too low, but in the mountains the terrain can rise rapidly to

meet the plane. The newer equipment compares the plane's location with a global database of mountains, in effect looking forward rather than down.

Experts say that the crash last year of a Korean Airlines plane in Guam and the American Airlines crash near Cali, Colombia, in December 1995, could have been avoided with such equipment.

The agency also plans to reopen discussions with airlines about reducing the toll of deaths and injuries from turbulence, officials said. Two airlines, American and United, recently said they planned to tell passengers that they must keep their belts fastened whenever they are in their seats, although passengers may still stand and walk in the aisles when the seat-belt light is off.

It was not clear whether the FAA will make that a rule.

Correction

A report in editions of April 7 incorrectly stated the number of signatories to the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty. A total of 149 nations have signed.

See our
Residential Real Estate
every Friday in The Intermarket

WEATHER

Forecast for Thursday through Saturday, as provided by AccuWeather.

Europe	Today	High	Low	Tomorrow	High	Low
Algeria	17-22	22-27	15-20	18-23	23-28	16-21
Austria	12-18	18-23	8-13	13-18	18-23	8-13
Belgium	12-18	18-23	8-13	13-18	18-23	8-13
Denmark	12-18	18-23	8-13	13-18	18-23	8-13
France	12-18	18-23	8-13	13-18	18-23	8-13
Germany	12-18	18-23	8-13	13-18	18-23	8-13
Greece	12-18	18-23	8-13	13-18	18-23	8-13
Ireland	12-18	18-23	8-13	13-18	18-23	8-13
Italy	12-18	18-23	8-13	13-18	18-23	8-13
Japan	12-18	18-23	8-13	13-18	18-23	8-13
Netherlands	12-18	18-23	8-13	13-18	18-23	8-13
Norway	12-18	18-23	8-13	13-18	18-23	8-13
Poland	12-18	18-23	8-13	13-18	18-23	8-13
Portugal	12-18	18-23	8-13	13-18	18-23	8-13
Spain	12-18	18-23	8-13	13-18	18-23	8-13
Sweden	12-18	18-23	8-13	13-18	18-23	8-13
Switzerland	12-18	18-23	8-13	13-18	18-23	8-13
Turkey	12-18	18-23	8-13	13-18	18-23	8-13
U.K.	12-18	18-23	8-13	13-18	18-23	8-13
U.S.	12-18	18-23	8-13	13-18	18-23	8-13

North America	Today	High	Low	Tomorrow	High	Low
Alaska	12-18	18-23	8-13	13-18	18-23	8-13
Canada	12-18	18-23	8-13	13-18	18-23	8-13
U.S.	12-18	18-23	8-13	13-18	18-23	8-13

Asia	Today	High	Low	Tomorrow	High	Low
China	12-18	18-23	8-13	13-18	18-23	8-13
India	12-18	18-23	8-13	13-18	18-23	8-13
Japan	12-18	18-23	8-13	13-18	18-23	8-13
Korea	12-18	18-23	8-13	13-18	18-23	8-13
Malaysia	12-18	18-23	8-13	13-18	18-23	8-13
Philippines	12-18	18-23	8-13	13-18	18-23	8-13
Singapore	12-18	18-23	8-13	13-18	18-23	8-13
Taiwan	12-18	18-23	8-13	13-18	18-23	8-13
Thailand	12-18	18-23	8-13	13-18	18-23	8-13
Vietnam	12-18	18-23	8-13	13-18	18-23	8-13

Africa	Today	High	Low	Tomorrow	High	Low
Algeria	12-18	18-23	8-13	13-18	18-23	8-13
Angola	12-18	18-23	8-13	13-18	18-23	8-13
Botswana	12-18	18-23	8-13	13-18	18-23	8-13
Cameroon	12-18	18-23	8-13	13-18	18-23	8-13
Cape Verde	12-18	18-23	8-13	13-18	18-23	8-13
Chad	12-18	18-23	8-13	13-18	18-23	8-13
Cote d'Ivoire	12-18	18-23	8-13	13-18	18-23	8-13
Egypt	12-18	18-23	8-13	13-18	18-23	8-13
Ghana	12-18	18-23	8-13	13-18	18-23	8-13
Guinea	12-18	18-23	8-13	13-18	18-23	8-13
Kenya	12-18	18-23	8-13	13-18	18-23	8-13
Liberia	12-18	18-23	8-13	13-18	18-23	8-13
Mali	12-18	18-23	8-13	13-18	18-23	8-13
Morocco	12-18	18-23	8-13	13-18	18-23	8-13
Niger	12-18	18-23	8-13	13-18	18-23	8-13
Nigeria	12-18	18-23	8-13	13-18	18-23	8-13
Senegal	12-18	18-23	8-13	13-18	18-23	8-13
Sierra Leone	12-18	18-23	8-13	13-18	18-23	8-13
South Africa	12-18	18-23	8-13	13-18	18-23	8-13
Swaziland	12-18	18-23	8-13	13-18	18-23	8-13
Tanzania	12-18	18-23	8-13	13-18	18-23	8-13
Togo	12-18	18-23	8-13	13-18	18-23	8-13
Tunisia	12-18	18-23	8-13	13-18	18-23	8-13
Zambia	12-18	18-23	8-13	13-18	18-23	8-13
Zimbabwe	12-18	18-23	8-13	13-18	18-23	8-13

Oceania	Today	High	Low	Tomorrow	High	Low
Alaska	12-18	18-23	8-13	13-18	18-23	8-13
Canada	12-18	18-23	8-13	13-18	18-23	8-13
U.S.	12-18	18-23	8-13	13-18	18-23	8-13

Latin America	Today	High	Low	Tomorrow	High	Low
Alaska	12-18	18-23	8-13	13-18	18-23	8-13
Canada	12-18	18-23	8-13	13-18	18-23	8-13
U.S.	12-18	18-23	8-13	13-18	18-23	8-13

Algeria	12-18	18-23	8-13	13-18	18-23	8-13
Austria	12-18	18-23	8-13	13-18	18-23	8-13
Belgium	12-18	18-23	8-13	13-18	18-23	8-13
Denmark	12-18	18-23	8-13	13-18	18-23	8-13
France	12-18	18-23	8-13	13-18	18-23	8-13
Germany	12-18	18-23	8-13	13-18	18-23	8-13
Greece	12-18	18-23	8-13	13-18	18-23	8-13
Italy	12-18	18-23	8-13	13-18	18-23	8-13
Japan	12-18	18-23	8-13	13-18	18-23	8-13
Spain	12-18	18-23	8-13	13-18	18-23	8-13
Sweden	12-18	18-23	8-13	13-18	18-23	8-13
Switzerland	12-18	18-23	8-13	13-18	18-23	8-13
U.S.	12-18	18-23	8-13	13-18	18-23	8-13
U.K.	12-18	18-23	8-13	13-18	18-23	8-13

THE AMERICAS

Pentagon Distress Signal Over a New World Court

It Warns Embassies of Frivolous Inquiries

By Eric Schmitt
New York Times Service

WASHINGTON — When the Pentagon urgently called in more than 100 foreign military attaches from embassies here two weeks ago, they expected to be briefed on the next crisis threatening world peace.

Instead, the military aides were surprised by warnings of a potential menace to their troops that most had never considered: the proposed International Criminal Court, scheduled to be established as a permanent tribunal to try tyrants such as Pol Pot for human-rights abuses or Saddam Hussein for war crimes.

The Pentagon warned the attaches that if the court was set up and was not properly restrained, it could target their own soldiers — particularly when they were acting as peacekeepers — and subject them to frivolous or politically motivated investigations by a rogue prosecutor or an overzealous tribunal.

"It was unusual," a seasoned Western military officer said of the 30-minute briefing he attended. After the meetings, on March 31 and April 1, several of the attaches dashed off urgent messages to their superiors back home, which in turn set off alarms up the chains of command.

For nearly four years, the United States has supported the efforts of diplomats at the United Nations to create a permanent international criminal court. All 185 members of the United Nations will be invited to a conference in Rome in June to establish the court by statute. But now that the tribunal is within reach, the United States is pressing to limit its authority and independence.

While President Bill Clinton and Secretary of State Madeleine Albright have endorsed the idea of a court, they have given their blessing to the Pentagon to become the attack dog in the U.S. campaign to create a court more to Washington's liking.

Human rights advocates contend that the American military establishment has set off an unnecessary uproar that may ultimately weaken efforts to create the first permanent world tribunal to deal with genocide, war crimes and crimes against humanity. It would re-

place ad hoc tribunals like those set up for Rwanda and the Balkans.

"An unintended result of all this is that a number of defense ministers are raising unfounded concerns about the project," said Christopher Keith Hall, a legal adviser for Amnesty International in London.

A three-page memorandum distributed at the Pentagon briefings says: "The U.S. is committed to the successful establishment of a court. But we are also intent on avoiding the creation of the wrong kind of court."

The wrong court, in the view of the administration and particularly the Pentagon, would put tiny players on the world stage, such as Benin or Trinidad and Tobago, on an equal footing with the United States. And that, they fear, could lead to unfounded accusations against soldiers assigned as peacekeepers in difficult situations.

"They really wanted to reinforce to us the idea, 'Do you know this is going on?'" said a Western military attaché who attended one of the briefings.

A European diplomat at the same meeting said, "It was a lobbying effort; clearly it was."

The Pentagon also sent a senior team to Europe, where the officials hoppedscotched from London to Paris to Brussels to Rome to Bonn, impressing top military brass in each capital with the American arguments. Human-rights advocates say the campaign may yield dangerous, unintended consequences.

"What the people at the Pentagon didn't realize is that they went after a fly with a shotgun," said Cherif Bassiouni, a law professor at De Paul University in Chicago and deputy chairman of the UN panel that prepared the draft text to be presented in Rome. "The attaches got scared, sent home cables and got everyone in a tizzy," he said. "What the Pentagon has done may undermine the policy established by the president."

But Pentagon officials deny using any pressure tactics and assert that no foreign military official has complained.

"It was not lobbying; there was no arm-twisting — it was awareness-raising," said Frederick Smith, principal deputy assistant secretary of defense for international security affairs.



LAUGHING IT UP — The House speaker, Newt Gingrich, telling a joke that broke up Jay Leno, the television talk show host. Mr. Gingrich is on a tour to promote his new book about his life and politics.

Away From Politics

• A common derivative of vitamin A, retinoic acid, may block cancer in the body, researchers said. The body makes retinoic acid from vitamin A, which comes from the yellow or orange compounds known as carotenoids found in vegetables ranging from carrots to squash. (Reuters)

• The effort to discover cancer in its early stages, when it is more easily treated, could get a boost from a highly sensitive new blood test that uses magnets to concentrate the cancer cells from blood and lasers to observe them. (AP)

• An Italian tourist who was kicked off an airline flight for assaulting an attendant who tried to stop him from smoking has been sentenced to seven days in jail in Bangor, Maine. A Continental Airlines flight bound for Newark, New Jersey, was diverted to Bangor on Friday, and Ignazio Miliano of Ribera, Italy was removed and arrested after the commotion. (AP)

• Boys who got free condoms in high school in Los Angeles did not have sex more often, a new study shows. But they were more likely to use condoms when they did have sex. (AP)

POLITICAL NOTES

Clinton Lawyer Assails Starr

WASHINGTON — President Bill Clinton's personal lawyer attacked Kenneth Starr, the independent counsel, accusing Mr. Starr of being unable to investigate "credibly or appropriately" allegations that David Hale, a key witness in the Whitewater real estate inquiry, was paid off by conservative activists.

In a letter made public Monday, the lawyer, David Kendall, outlined the independent counsel's links to the conservative philanthropist Richard Mellon Scaife, who financed an effort by The American Spectator magazine to uncover negative information about the president. That project was the source of alleged payoffs to Mr. Hale while he was a central cooperating witness in Mr. Starr's investigation.

Mr. Kendall asked Mr. Starr to request that the Justice Department — rather than Mr. Starr's office — investigate the Hale allegations, which were made by the former girlfriend of a longtime friend of Mr. Hale's. "I do not think you or your office can credibly or appropriately conduct this investigation," Mr. Kendall wrote to Mr. Starr in the letter. On Thursday, the Justice Department urged Mr.

Starr to investigate the allegations but alerted the independent counsel that he might face a conflict of interest in doing so. The Justice letter, from Deputy Attorney General Eric Holder Jr., included a statement that Mr. Starr might have such a conflict "because of the importance of Hale to your investigation and because the payments allegedly came from funds provided by Richard Scaife."

Mr. Starr's office has not yet decided what it plans to do with the Hale allegations. "We're evaluating what our response will be, and to whom," said a spokesman for the office, adding that a decision was expected soon. Hickman Ewing, the deputy independent counsel, said last week there was no evidence that FBI agents or anyone in Mr. Starr's office knew of any money going to Mr. Hale. (WP)

Budget Chief Steps Down

WASHINGTON — President Bill Clinton accepted the resignation Tuesday of Franklin Raines as director of the Office of Management and Budget and nominated his deputy, Jack Lew, as his successor. Mr. Raines, 49, will become chairman and chief

executive officer of Fannie Mae Corp., after serving for more than a year and a half as Mr. Clinton's budget chief. Fannie Mae issues secondary mortgages.

Mr. Raines was praised by the president as "a brilliant OMB director" trusted by Republican and Democratic lawmakers alike.

Mr. Lew was at Mr. Raines' side for the months of meetings between administration officials and congressional leaders last year that produced the budget-balancing deal. (AP)

Quote/Unquote

Mark Plotkin, a Washington political analyst, on the speculation over whether Washington's mayor, Marion Barry, who has served four terms since 1974, and a jail sentence on drug charges, will seek a fifth four-year term this year: "He has never toyed with the public like this. I think he has decided that there is nothing left to prove. He came back, rising like the Phoenix, in one of the greatest political comebacks of all time, and he could go out on a high — although that's an unfortunate choice of words." (NYT)

Katharine Graham Wins a Pulitzer for Autobiography; Philip Roth for Fiction

NEW YORK (AP) — The 1998 Pulitzer Prize for biography was awarded Tuesday to Katharine Graham, chairman of the executive committee of The Washington Post Co., for "Personal History," her autobiography.

Philip Roth won the prize for fiction for "American Pastoral." The Pulitzer for drama went to Paula Vogel for "How I Learned to Drive."

The New York Times staff won the 1998 Pulitzer Prize for international reporting for a series profiling the effects of drug corruption in Mexico.

The spot news photography prize went to Martha Rial of the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette for portraits of survivors of the conflicts in Rwanda and Burundi.

The New York Times won three Pulitzers and the Los Angeles Times two. The prizes, the highest awards in American journalism, are presented annually by Columbia University. In the commentary category, Mike McAlary of the New York Daily News was honored for his columns on the alleged attack on a Haitian immigrant in a New York police station.

The Grand Forks Herald in North Dakota won

the public service prize for coverage of the blizzard, flood and fire that devastated much of the city.

The Pulitzer for breaking news reportage went to the Los Angeles Times for coverage of a botched bank robbery and subsequent police shoot-out in North Hollywood.

The award for investigative reporting went to Gary Cohn and Will Englund of The Sun of Baltimore for a series on dangers to workers and the environment when discarded ships are dismantled.

In the beat reporting category, Linda Greenhouse of The New York Times was honored for

her coverage of the U.S. Supreme Court.

Paul Salopek of the Chicago Tribune won the explanatory reporting category for a profile of the Human Genome Diversity Project, which seeks to chart the genetic relationship among all people.

Russell Carroll and Jeff Nesmith of the Dayton (Ohio) Daily News were awarded the national reporting prize for disclosing flaws and mismanagement in the military health care system.

Thomas French of the St. Petersburg (Florida) Times was honored for feature writing for a portrait of a mother and two daughters killed

while on a Florida vacation.

Michiko Kakutani of The New York Times was honored in the criticism category for her writing on books and contemporary literature.

The editorial writing prize went to Bernard Stein of the Riverdale Press, a New York City weekly, for editorials on politics and other city issues.

The editorial cartooning prize went to Stephen Breen of the Asbury Park (New Jersey) Press.

Clarence Williams of the Los Angeles Times won in feature photography for documenting the plight of children with parents addicted to drugs and alcohol.

AMERICAN TOPICS

Indian Languages Take a Slide Toward an Unspoken Oblivion

James Jackson Jr., 88, says he still remembers the day many decades ago when a teacher at his Indian school grabbed a friend who was speaking his Hupa language and said, "You're speaking your language — I'm going to wash your mouth out with soap." Mr. Jackson is one of only a handful of surviving Hupa speakers.

Such stories were common on Indian reservations around the United States. Surprisingly, most of North America's Indian languages have survived. Of the approximately 300 Indian languages that existed when Europeans first arrived, 211 are still spoken, reports The New York Times.

But with the impact of television and radio and increased mobility among Indians, those native languages are suffering a free fall. Of the 175 Indian languages still spoken in the United States, only 20 are spoken by mothers to babies, said Michael Krauss, a linguist at the University of Alaska. "This is a major American tragedy," Mr. Krauss said.

The trend is of wider sweep. With the rise of a global economy and increased communications, about half the world's 6,000 languages are expected to disappear over the next century. Among American Indians, however, the process is already far advanced. In California, 50 native languages are still spoken. But not one is being spoken natively by children.

Indians are dismissive of federal efforts to help: a U.S. program spends \$2 million a year on language preservation. Greater hopes are placed on programs like the Native California Network, in which 50 young "apprentices" undergo intensive language immersions with "masters," tribal elders who speak the language. Similar efforts are under way in other states.

Short Takes

The 550,000 U.S. members of the Sierra Club are deciding whether to take a stand against human migration patterns. They are now voting on whether to favor efforts to slow the flow of immigrants to the United States, or to remain neutral on the issue. Supporters say overpopulation caused by immigration hurts the environment. Opponents, however, say the measure is racist and xenophobic.

The proposal would require the environmental group to develop a policy advocating immigration restrictions and to lobby Congress on the idea. Member have until April 18 to return their ballots. Among those backing a reduction in immigration are Gaylord Nelson, founder of Earth Day, and Stewart Udall, a former Interior secretary. The Sierra Club leadership wants to maintain the status quo.

Bruce Morrow won the 1995-96 Big Game Award in Texas, displaying a 12-point set of deer antlers from a buck he says he shot in South Texas, big stuff in a big hunting state. But prosecutors now say he didn't bag the buck, he bought it. Mr. Morrow is about to go on trial in Austin on charges of tampering with a government record; he faces up to two years in jail.

Mr. Morrow's troubles began when a hunting magazine ran a photo of him posing with the antlers. A collector thought the antlers were a dead ringer for a set he had sold to a dealer. He notified authorities. Mr. Morrow is known to have rejected a plea bargain calling for 45 days in jail, 200 hours of community service and a \$5,000 fine — plus a public apology. He apparently found that a bit stiff, considering that the contest paid no prize money, only bragging rights. But his alleged offense is no laughing matter in Texas.

"Here in the state of Texas, we take that pretty seriously," said Denny Gardner of the Texas Wildlife Association. "Personally, I don't think they could treat a person like that bad enough."

Brian Knowlton

Albright Seeks to Put Off Foreigner's Execution

By Linda Greenhouse
New York Times Service

WASHINGTON — The Supreme Court was considering whether to intervene in a Virginia death penalty case that has unusual international implications as well as possibly unsettling consequences for thousands of other cases involving the incarceration of foreigners in U.S. prisons.

In a brief filed Monday, the Clinton administration told the justices that despite an order last week by the International Court of Justice that the United States "take all measures at its disposal" to stop Virginia from executing a Paraguayan citizen, there was no legal basis for granting requests by Paraguay and the prisoner for a stay of execution.

The prisoner, Angel Francisco Breard, was convicted in 1992 of murdering a woman in Virginia and was to die at 9 P.M. Tuesday. Both Mr. Breard and his native country argue that the execution would violate U.S. obligations under an international treaty, the Vienna Convention on Consular Relations. Virginia has conceded that it violated the treaty by not informing Mr. Breard of his right to help from Paraguayan consular officials.

The administration's brief, filed by Solicitor General Seth Waxman in response to a high court request, said that while "there can be no doubt of the irreparable harm to Breard from the carrying out of his sentence of execution," Virginia would also suffer harm "by an order preventing

it from carrying out its lawfully entered judgment of execution in a timely fashion."

At the same time, Secretary of State Madeleine Albright wrote Governor James Gilmore 3d of Virginia, asking that he voluntarily grant a stay of execution as a way of honoring the treaty. In light of the order Thursday by the Court of Justice, Mrs. Albright said, Mr. Breard's immediate execution "could be seen as a denial by the United States of the significance of international law and the court's processes in its international relations and thereby limit our ability to ensure that Americans are protected when living or traveling abroad."

Although the brief filed by the solicitor general and the letter sent by Ms. Albright

appeared on one level to be contradictory, they were actually part of a coordinated administration strategy to deal with an escalating international incident. That was made clear by Mr. Waxman's 52-page brief, which offered the secretary of state's letter as an example of an appropriate response to the Court of Justice, in contrast to judicial intervention, which the brief said was inappropriate within the system of federalism.

The brief contrasted the "compulsion" of a judicial remedy with the "persuasion" of the secretary of state's letter. Mr. Gilmore had no immediate response. The Vienna Convention, signed by the United States in 1963 and ratified by the Senate in 1969, requires that a person who is arrested in a foreign country be promptly notified of the right to communicate with the home country's consular officials, who are entitled to visit the person and arrange for legal representation.

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ASIA/PACIFIC

At a Fallen Khmer Rouge Stronghold, the Thunder of War Still Resounds

By Seth Mydans
New York Times Staff

ANLONG VENG, Cambodia — The writing here is on the walls. In a cement schoolhouse abandoned when the Khmer Rouge guerrillas fled a government attack two weeks ago.

Large blackboards list the rules of behavior that were enforced in this village during the years when it was the core of a stark, self-contained Communist society — along with the penalty for disobedience: death.

No stealing. No drunkenness. No prostitution. No marriage outside the commune. No commerce without permission. No contact with outsiders. No listening to any radio station other than that of the Khmer Rouge.

"Anyone who disobeys the Angkor will be killed," reads the blackboard. The Angkor — meaning "the organization" — was the anonymous leadership that ruled Cambodia from 1975 to 1979 and caused the deaths of more than one million people.

For years the Khmer Rouge leadership held out here — apart from a short-lived government occupation in 1994 — even as the bulk of its forces, in other strongholds, gave up the fight.

Now Cambodian government soldiers and Khmer Rouge defectors control Anlong Veng, which stands empty and silent in the hot sun, and they, too, have made their mark on the schoolhouse walls.

One of them has written, in careful but flawed English: "This is a place of Khmer Red, now the soldiers got. They run until to stay at Thailand. Signature: Soldiers of Gavanite."

The bang of a tank cannon echoed off the cement walls Monday, and a young soldier jumped. The war is not yet over. The last several hundred guerrillas have retreated to the Dangrek Mountains on the border with Thailand, a hazy blue ridge 14 kilometers (9 miles) away.

Seven artillery rounds fired by the Khmer Rouge landed in Anlong Veng near the abandoned home of the guerrillas' leader, Ta Mok.

On a visit here, General Meas Sophea, deputy

chief of staff of the Cambodian Army, asserted that the guerrillas' mountain stronghold could fall within a few days. But the Khmer Rouge remain a powerful force that has already retaken Anlong Veng once since it fell two weeks ago, and the progress of the battle is unclear. Several thousand villagers who fled at the time have not been allowed to return.

General Meas Sophea also asserted that Mr. Ta Mok had crossed the border into Thailand, presumably taking with him the founder of the Khmer Rouge, Pol Pot, who is now ailing and demoted from his leadership post.

"Ta Mok is in Thai territory," the general said. "As far as we know, Pol Pot is with him. Ta Mok is in Ban Sa-Ngam, three kilometers inside Thai territory." He said he based this statement on "information from people who have come from that area."

Thailand has vigorously denied that the Khmer Rouge have taken sanctuary on its territory, although for years the guerrillas have moved easily back and forth across the border at Ban Sa-Ngam.

That village, at a heavily patrolled crossing point, is within a 16-kilometer Thai border zone that cannot be entered by outsiders without permission. Foreign reporters outside the zone say there is no indication whether any Khmer Rouge soldiers or leaders have crossed the border.

The United States is eager to capture Mr. Pol Pot, 73, who has led the Khmer Rouge for more than 30 years, and to bring him to trial before an international tribunal for crimes against humanity. Maintaining Thailand's cooperation is a delicate diplomatic challenge for the Americans.

There is evidence of the Khmer Rouge's close relationship with Thailand in Mr. Ta Mok's empty house here: Two calendars issued by Thai Bank hang on his walls. But apart from the calendars, Mr. Ta Mok's two-story cement house, with its large underground bunker and radio tower, has been stripped of almost all its furnishings.

Government soldiers have chalked a skull and crossbones on the door to his bedroom — a small, stuffy room with a tile floor, unfinished wood

walls and one small window with a broken screen. Like the condition of the house, the surrounding village is barren, bare, hot and not beautiful. Widely spaced thatched-hut stand empty, surrounded by parched, broken earth. There are few trees. Nobody seems to have planted gardens here.

Foreign Diplomats Visit Anlong Veng

Foreign diplomats toured Anlong Veng on Tuesday as the Cambodian government predicted the guerrilla movement was on the brink of collapse, Agence France-Presse reported.

"It was absolutely fascinating," a Western diplomat said, adding, "According to the military, it looks like this whole thing could be wrapped up in just a few days."

For the third time in three days, senior Cambodian military officers told diplomats they believed Mr. Ta Mok and the rest of the Khmer Rouge hierarchy, including Mr. Pol Pot, had fled to Thailand. But in Bangkok, Thai authorities again denied the allegations.

As the Smog Spreads, Malaysia Acts on Fires

KUALA LUMPUR — Smog from raging fires spurred Malaysia to initiate a nationwide drive Tuesday to spot blazes, and the pollution prompted Brunei to close schools.

The moves came amid mounting fears that forest and bush fires fanned by dry weather would throw a blanket of acrid smoke over much of Southeast Asia, much as it did last year.

An official with Indonesia's environment impact agency, Bapedal, said Tuesday that 250,000 hectares (600,000 acres) of forest land had been destroyed in fires that have swept Borneo's East Kalimantan Province since January.

Last year, fires destroyed about 30,000 hectares of the province. Kalimantan at this time is part of the Wild West, part of a nation without government, like parts of America in the 19th century, "Environment Minister Juwono Sudarsono was quoted as saying.

Mr. Sudarsono attributed the fires to the clearing of forests. He said because the government had not paid attention to the cause of the fires, it was as if Kalimantan was a region without government.

The El Niño weather phenomenon has cut rainfall over much of Southeast Asia, including Borneo, where Brunei is situated along with Eastern Malaysia and Kalimantan.

Fires in Indonesia last year sent smog across much of Southeast Asia, prompting health fears across the archipelago and in Malaysia and

Singapore. The haze returned to Singapore at the weekend, and a weather expert said the small island state was set for a week of hazy weather as winds pushed in smog from Borneo.

Environmental agencies and government officials say plantation companies are mostly to blame for having taken advantage of the dry conditions and poor law enforcement to clear forest for palm oil, rubber and timber plantations.

Malaysia began using helicopters and airplanes to spot fires, and officials vowed to put people who start blazes in jail.

Thousands of hectares were reported burning in Sabah state in the eastern region of Borneo, and peat fires emitted smoke from a smaller area near the capital, Kuala Lumpur.

The air pollutant index has recently remained in the good-to-moderate range for most of Malaysia, but sections of Sarawak and Sabah states in northern Borneo have been covered with smog.

The airport in Kota Kinabalu in Sabah was closed for several hours Monday because of poor visibility. Rain fell on the city Tuesday for the first time in five months, the official Bernama news agency said.

Brunei ordered schools closed as the pollutant standard index reached hazardous levels. For the coming days, parents were told to call a national hot line or listen to state radio each morning to learn if schools would be closed that day.



Firefighters cutting brush to stop fires spreading near Kuala Lumpur International Airport.

At Pilgrimage's Climax, 10 Million Hindus

HARIDWAR, India — The city of Haridwar was a swirl of saffron, snake charmers and about 10 million Hindu devotees on Tuesday for the climax of a purification ritual in the Ganges River that is one of the world's largest religious gatherings.

Hindus believe that bathing in a sacred river washes away their sins, speeding the way to the end of reincarnations in this world and the attainment of nirvana, or the afterlife.

Astrolators, citing a special alignment of planets and stars, deemed Tuesday the most auspicious day of the four-month festival that began Jan. 1 and ends April 30.

Leeladhar Jaguri, an official spokesman, said 10 million people had bathed in the chilly waters beginning overnight, as many as had come during the first three months of the festival.

The police had at first canceled the traditional processions of *sadhuis*, saffron-clad Hindu holy men, after rival sects clashed over who would bathe first. The police

relented after three religious leaders began a hunger strike in protest, and the *sadhuis* marched as crowds lining

their route for miles cheered. No violence was reported.

Mindful of the recent fatal stampede at the hajj pilgrimage in Saudi Arabia, the Uttar Pradesh state authorities made massive security arrangements to avert any violence or accidents.

More than 15,000 police and paramilitary troops were deployed, and at least 30 permanent and temporary bridges were erected across the river.

Local officials say the festival was estimated to cost the authorities about 1 billion rupees (\$25 million).

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Continue on Page 12

مركز الاموال

EUROPE

Blood Feuds Draining a Fierce Corner of Albania

By Jane Perlez
New York Times Service

OLD TROPOJE, Albania — Beneath the snow-splashed escarpments that protect northern Albania from the outside world and have left life much as it was centuries ago, Sylaj family members have been cooped up on their homestead for months, too afraid to move.

A blood feud, following precepts laid down in a medieval canon, hangs over the men of the household, including the patriarch, Shaban Sylaj, 99, who welcomes visitors with a two-tooth grin, wisps of hair poking out from under his skullcap.

Mr. Sylaj's son, Chel, 38, shot and killed another Albanian man in January and now the dead man's family has the right, under the still-flourishing code, to take revenge. Their target is one of the Sylaj men.

where vengeance is the ruling passion.

Weapons — pistols in the old days, automatic assault rifles now — are valued as much as human life: A man who kills another man and takes his weapon too can be avenged with the taking of two lives.

"Who knows how many people have been killed through revenge?" said Man Mulosmani, 64, a clan leader who is preaching reconciliation rather than retribution. "Countless, countless. People don't want to report killings to the police because then the accused would be protected by the state in prison instead of being available to kill."

This closed corner of Europe was described by British spies who trekked here on mule and foot during World War II as the wildest physical — and psychological — terrain on the Continent. It is still reached by a precipitous dirt road hacked out of the mountains and a jade-tinted lake that swerves through vertical limestone cliffs and stony land.

For nearly 50 years, the world's most isolated Communist system superficially submerged the customs that decree an eye for an eye and keep women in the lowliest position. But as Enver Hoxha's communism evaporated at the beginning of this decade, so did the temporary covering it provided for ingrained ways of living.

When the Albanian police force and army disintegrated during civil strife last year and the arms depots stashed with assault rifles and mortars sprang open, revenge killings



In Dragobi, Albania, where medieval precepts of vengeance still apply, the Ismaili family's house is built mainly for defense. The Ismailis, from left: Musa, 24; Lutzin, 8; Feride, 18; Fearie, 42, and her husband Uke, 48.

skyrocketed. With households heavily armed and escaped prisoners in possession of armories, the Tropoje region became off-limits for outsiders, even for government officials from the capital, Tirana.

The fact that the sparsely settled area is the stronghold of the former president, Sali Berisha, adds to the inability of the new Socialist government to impose order. In some places, like the village of Dragobi, the instability of the past and the present is easy to see.

The limestone house of the Ismaili family, for example, has narrow slits in the walls. They are ideal for aiming a gun at the outside world while

providing protection against anyone who might want to attack, the family explained. In their living room, a hole in the wall covered by a sliding door once served as a hiding place for their grandfather's pistol. Now this is where the women keep their embroidery. Instead of a pistol, the family keeps assault rifles.

As hard as Mr. Mulosmani, a retired agronomist with a shock of white hair, tries to mediate between feuding families, it is a difficult task. He spent a session cross-legged on the Sylaj's living room floor — a manner borrowed from the Turks who dominated Albania until 1912 — discussing ways to avert

more bloodshed. He came away with no resolution. Intended to regulate medieval life, the Canon of Lek, as it is known, has been perverted by people to suit their own needs. Mr. Mulosmani said. Now, the lawless society floats between the old customs and a state unable to adapt to modernity in the wake of communism.

The unchecked violence in the Tropoje district is combined with extreme poverty. The hospital has been looted so often that robberies have subsided because there is nothing left to steal.

International aid agencies are too frightened to come to help. Many families make do with one chicken a week made into broth and served with a plank of hard cornbread. There is no industry and only those families who have men abroad — often as illegal immigrants in Greece or Italy — can make ends meet.

Such families usually spend the first remittances from abroad on a television set. But wealthier families remain self-sufficient, living off the land.

is the family of Hatixhe Selimi, 42, a teacher in Valbone, a tiny settlement near the border with Kosovo.

By necessity, Mrs. Selimi is a prudent homemaker. For her 12-year-old daughter, Aurelia, and her 7-year-old niece, Viola, she uses milk from her cow, makes fetastyle cheese and bakes bread from water and corn in a wood-burning oven. For guests, she serves potatoes and cabbage from her garden.

She and her daughter dress in Western castoffs sold at outdoor markets and keep warm in socks hand-knitted from the wool of their sheep. When Lek conceived his canon in the mid-15th century, women were held in such low esteem they were exempt from most feuds and were regarded as chattel to do a man's bidding. Today, women still back out of a door in order not to show disrespect to the men in the room.

Under the Communists, Mrs. Selimi was allowed to choose her own husband. But such freedom was unusual even then and is getting rarer now. The old rules of arranged marriages are back in vogue, she said.

BRIEFLY

Backing for Yeltsin's Nominee

MOSCOW — The hard-line opposition's commitment to a confrontation with President Boris Yeltsin began to erode Tuesday as a leading Communist urged Parliament to approve Mr. Yeltsin's candidate for prime minister rather than risk having the assembly disbanded.

Gennadi Seleznyov, speaker of Parliament's lower house, the State Duma, has been a leading critic of Mr. Yeltsin's nominee, Sergei Kiriyenko, 35, who was rejected by lawmakers last week in a first-round vote.

But after meeting with Mr. Yeltsin on Tuesday, Mr. Seleznyov said he would rather approve Mr. Kiriyenko as prime minister than have Mr. Yeltsin dismiss Parliament and call new elections.

Under the constitution, Mr. Yeltsin has the right to dissolve Parliament and call new elections if the Duma rejects his nominee three times. Mr. Kiriyenko's nomination was rejected Friday by a vote of 186 to 143 (AP)

New Attack in 'Cauliflower War'

MORLAIX, France — Cauliflower farmers protesting falling prices blocked Brittany's main highway Tuesday, resuming protests that last week damaged and shut down the region's main railroad.

About 500 cauliflower producers voted unanimously Tuesday afternoon to resume their demonstrations despite an offer by Agriculture Minister Louis Le Pen to organize talks between the farmers and ministry officials. "We refuse the roundtable," said Jean-Francois Jacob, president of the young farmers' association, demanding direct talks with Mr. Le Pen.

"We hoped for a gesture from the government, and it never came," said Thierry Merret, the farm union leader. In the so-called cauliflower war, the crop's price has fallen below production costs and farmers are seeking higher state subsidies to offset their losses. (AP)

Vienna Cardinal Faces Seclusion

VIENNA — The disgraced former archbishop of Vienna, Hans Hermann Groer, is being sent into monastic seclusion abroad, the Austrian Roman Catholic Church's press agency said Tuesday.

Monsignor Groer "will no longer appear as bishop or cardinal and will be sent to a foreign monastery," Kathpress said in a statement.

The move, ahead of Pope John Paul II's visit to Austria in June, followed an appeal by Austrian bishops for the Vatican to rule on allegations that Monsignor Groer, now 78, had sexually abused several monks.

Earlier Tuesday, Monsignor Groer said he would be willing to resign his church duties if the Pope wanted him to do so. (Reuters)

Bosnian Serbs Deny War Crimes

THE HAGUE — Two Bosnian Serbs who formerly worked as prison-camp commanders pleaded not guilty Tuesday to charges that they were responsible for atrocities committed against Muslims and Croats held at the Serbian-run Omarska camp during the Bosnian war.

Miroslav Kvocka, 41 and Mladen Radic, 45, who surrendered to NATO-led peacekeepers in Bosnia last Wednesday, appeared at a preliminary hearing of the United Nations criminal tribunal for Yugoslavia. (Reuters)

Court Voids Charges Against Heirs of Art Thief

By William H. Honan
New York Times Service

NEW YORK — A federal appeals court in New Orleans has all but put an end to the prosecution of two Texans and their lawyer on charges that they trafficked in stolen property in their efforts to sell artwork taken from Germany after World War II.

The Texans, Jack Meador, 78, and

Jane Meador Cook, 64, the heirs of the man who stole the artworks, known as the Quedlinburg treasure, may still have to pay more than \$50 million in estate taxes, penalties and interest.

The medieval artworks, said to be worth at least \$200 million, were stolen from their hiding place in a cave outside Quedlinburg in central Germany in the closing days of the war.

Mr. Meador and Ms. Cook are the

brother and sister of Joe Tom Meador, who, as an army lieutenant, stole 12 treasures when he happened upon them in Quedlinburg.

Their former lawyer, John Torigan, sold the artworks in 1990 to a team of European art dealers, who in turn sold them to Germany. Mr. Meador and Ms. Cook were paid a total of \$2.75 million for the treasures. Mr. Torigan earned a 5 percent commission.

On French Far Right, a Subtler Brain

Megret, National Front's No. 2, Says Party Is Destined to Govern

By Marliese Simons
New York Times Service

PARIS — For the French, the face and voice of the far right have long been those of Jean-Marie Le Pen, the blustery former paratrooper who, 25 years ago, founded the National Front. But the brain that quietly devised the maneuvers that convulsed French politics recently belongs to Bruno Megret.

The two men could not be more different.

Whereas the large and stout Mr. Le Pen thrives on melodrama and pours scorn on mainstream politicians, the slight Mr. Megret goes out of his way to sound reasonable and amenable to compromise. Whereas Mr. Le Pen can rouse people like a preacher, Mr. Megret's language is precise and professional.

But although he sometimes gives the impression that he disapproves of outrageous tactics and of scaring people off with heated oratory, Mr. Megret, 49, the second-ranking member of the National Front, plays down any substantive differences he may have with his boss. And like Mr. Le Pen, he firmly believes that the National Front is destined to govern.

Last week, Mr. Megret gloated over the poor performance of the two main rightist parties in regional elections and cheerfully predicted more upheaval in the establishment. In his view, that will include the implosion of the current political center.

"France now has three political poles," he said, citing the left, the moderate right and the far-right National Front. "That means we are in an unstable system. When there are three poles, the center tends to disappear or become marginal."

With unwavering confidence, Mr. Megret added that France's traditional right would have to divide into two camps: one that opposed the National Front and one that made deals with it. If this does not happen, Mr. Megret predicted, the country's two main conser-

vative parties will "continue to retreat and implode."

Presenting the National Front as a pivot point of French politics is still excessive for a party that in the last few years has garnered only 15 percent of the vote nationwide. But in recent weeks it has sounded a little less extravagant.

In March, elections for regional assemblies splintered votes in such a way that the National Front minority held the balance of power in five of France's 22 regions. Five members of the conservative Union for French Democracy accepted National Front votes to hold on to their assembly presidencies. Two of the five then resigned under pressure from their party, but three refused.

In Paris, furious party bosses branded the alliance between their local officials and the National Front a pact with the devil and expelled the three rebels. The infighting is far from over, and Mr. Megret clearly hopes it will continue to work to his party's advantage.

"I am very optimistic about the growth of the National Front," he said.

All this turmoil has put the spotlight on him. He appears well placed to rattle the moderate right, since he comes from its ranks. A career civil servant, he broke with the Gaullists in 1985 and joined the National Front. More than Mr. Le Pen, Mr. Megret has of late taken on the role of articulating the party's ideas.

Last week, talking with a group of foreign correspondents, he gave the most detailed description yet of how a National Front government would disrupt the European Union.

Outlining a four-point plan, Mr. Megret said the Front would first revise the French Constitution so that European law would no longer prevail over French law. Then it would challenge France's participation in the euro, the single European currency, which is set to go into effect next year.

Third, it would re-establish strict border controls. And last it would pull out of the customs union and impose a 10 percent tax on imports.

"We think the Europe being built is doomed because it is an institutional imbroglio," he said.

Mr. Megret, the polite strategist, has been trying hard to rid the Front of its negative labels: racist, anti-Semitic, xenophobic. Individual members may have slipped up in their language, he acknowledged, but the Front, as a party, "condemns racism, anti-Semitism and authoritarian regimes," and rejects "the term 'extreme right'."

Still, he said, the party "refuses to be politically correct." Without it France would be a place of "totalitarian conformity," where "everyone would say the same thing about everything. By its very existence, the Front maintains diversity and freedom of expression."

In the town of Viroflay, where his wife, Catherine, is mayor but he is the real political force, diversity is not necessarily the norm. Mrs. Megret announced earlier this year that the town would pay a bonus of 5,000 francs (\$800) for every new baby, but only if the parents were European in origin. After the first payment the policy was put on hold; regional authorities challenged it as discriminatory.

More Turmoil on the Right

Two founders of the Union for French Democracy quit the group Tuesday in protest over the expulsion of the three members who forged deals with the National Front, Reuters reported.

In the latest sign of disarray on the right, Michel Poniatowski, a former interior minister, and Alain Griorrier, mayor of Charenton, wrote a joint letter of resignation highly critical of the party leader, Francois Leotard.

"You have banned from the UDF three regional chairmen who are excellent republicans and democrats and above all suspicious," the letter said.

Mr. Poniatowski and Mr. Griorrier said that by spurning the National Front, Mr. Leotard was handing control of the regions to the left and thereby "betraying" UDF voters.

Mafia Leader Arrested Near Palermo

By Vera Haller
Washington Post Service

ROME — The police announced Tuesday that they had arrested Italy's second-most-wanted Mafia fugitive, reportedly the heir to Sicily's organized crime network.

The suspect was identified as Vito Vitale, 39, and he was said to have consolidated power over clans in and around the Sicilian capital, Palermo.

Palermo's police chief, Antonio Man-

ardo Provenzano. A fugitive for more than three decades, Mr. Provenzano is elderly and believed to be in poor health.

The chief said that Mr. Vitale was seized Tuesday in a farmhouse under construction in the countryside south of Palermo.

The owner of the farmhouse and another man there at the time of the raid also were arrested. Mr. Vitale was held on a warrant for Mafia association and other charges dating from 1995.

According to investigators, Mr. Vitale rose quickly to the Mafia power structure in large part because he was the

protégé of Leoluca Bagarella, a Mafia boss who was arrested in 1995.

Mr. Vitale was said to have also had the support of the "boss of bosses," Salvatore Riina, who was arrested in 1993 after 23 years on the run.

Police Official Is Held

One of Italy's most decorated police officials was arrested Tuesday for allegedly extorting money from the family of a kidnapping victim, The Associated Press reported from Rome.

He was identified as General Francesco Delfino, 60.

The International Herald Tribune will produce a Special Report on May 2, on

EUROPE, THE EURO



ON MAY 2, European Prime Ministers and Finance Ministers will meet in Brussels to set the seal on one of the most daring and far-reaching monetary experiments in history — European economic and monetary union. At that meeting, up to 11 nations will be selected as founding members of EMU and they will agree to replace their national currencies with a single, new currency — the euro — and hand over their monetary policies to a new European Central Bank.

It will happen gradually, with the transition beginning on January 1, 1999, and completed by 2002. The move will further consolidate Europe's single market, allowing nearly 300 million consumers to buy goods and services anywhere they please, paying with the new currency.

This Special Report will bring together the following IHT correspondents to offer you the most up-to-date and useful news, background and analysis on this extraordinary new turn in European history:

Tom Buerkle
Joseph Fitchett
Alan Friedman
Carl Gewirtz
Barry James
John Schmid
John Vinocur

Whatever one's views, the reality of economic and monetary union beginning in January is apt to set in motion a new dynamic that contains surprises for everyone.

You have heard a lot from the politicians, but to help you get your own, independent grip on Europe's new reality, don't miss this Special Report on May 2, the day the crucial summit gets under way.

For a complete synopsis and information on advertising, contact your local representative or Bill Mahder at the IHT in Paris at: +33 1 41 43 93 78; fax: +33 1 41 43 92 13 or e-mail: supplements@iht.com



THE WORLD'S DAILY NEWSPAPER

INTERNATIONAL

Nine IRA Convicts Released By Dublin

By James F. Clarity
New York Times Service

DUBLIN — Irish officials said Tuesday that the government had released nine Irish Republican Army convicts who were serving prison terms for terrorist offenses.

The release was widely seen as support for Gerry Adams, the president of the IRA's political wing, Sinn Féin, as he faces internal opposition to the peace agreement reached last week. Mr. Adams must defend his decision to approve the agreement at a conference of his party in Dublin this weekend.

Freedom for IRA inmates — whom Sinn Féin calls "political prisoners," but whom the Irish and British governments consider felons convicted of

such crimes as murder, arms running, and attacks on police that wounded or killed civilians — is a major concern for Republicans. Some Republicans oppose Mr. Adams as a traitor to the cause because he failed in the peace talks to gain a united Ireland, run from Dublin and free of British control.

Hard-line Protestant leaders, like the Reverend Ian Paisley, have already seized upon the issue of the prisoners, saying the agreement will free terrorists to restart the guerrilla war. The agreement envisions the early release of paramilitary prisoners, both Catholic and Protestant, within two years.

If a substantial number of Mr. Adams's party members opposed the agreement, it would weaken support for it in the referendum. But, more significantly, it would increase fears that the dissidents would join or help violent splinter groups.

The IRA is observing a cease-fire it called in July, though many officials say IRA guerrillas have helped splinter groups in attacks in recent months.

Irish officials said the prisoner release was in keeping with the spirit of the historic agreement signed Friday for a new political structure in the British province of Northern Ireland.

The new structure, to be put to referendums on May 22 in the overwhelmingly Roman Catholic Irish Republic and in the mostly Protestant North, would give the Catholic minority in Northern Ireland more political power and increase the influence of the Irish Republic in northern affairs. But it assures the Protestant majority that there will be no united Ireland unless it is approved by a majority, which is not likely to happen until well into the new century.

As politicians began the campaign for and against the agreement on the first day after the Easter weekend, the issue of prisoners stirred an energetic dispute. Fifty IRA prisoners were being held at the prison at Portlaoise, west of Dublin. Last year, to speed up the peace effort, Ireland released 11 prisoners early.

About 250 IRA prisoners are in British jails in the North or on the British mainland. There was no indication Tuesday of an early release for any of them. Also surfacing as an issue Tuesday was a suggested visit to Northern Ireland by President Bill Clinton. Last week, after the agreement was approved, the George Mitchell, a former U.S. senator who was chairman of the peace talks, said Mr. Clinton might visit the North to help win approval in the referendum.

The president said he would visit if invited by Prime Ministers Tony Blair of Britain and Bertie Aherm of Ireland. Catholic leaders, like John Hume, one of the authors of the peace effort that led to the new agreement, said Mr. Clinton would be welcome and helpful. But the Reverend Paisley's son, Ian Jr., said Mr. Clinton would not be welcome.

Extremist supporters of British rule, such as the Democratic Unionist Party, which stayed out of the peace talks and plans to begin a campaign for a no vote, sharply oppose a visit by Mr. Clinton, Reuters reported from Belfast.

"The people of Northern Ireland are more than capable of making up their own minds about the deal," Nigel Dodds of the Democratic Unionists said. "Clinton's suggested visit would clearly be aimed and used as a propaganda drive for a yes vote."

John Taylor, deputy leader of the Ulster Unionist Party, which helped forge the deal, said that while Mr. Clinton was generally welcome in the North, which he visited in December 1995, a visit before the May vote "could be seen as American interference in the affairs of the U.K."

Under an emerging agreement with Congress, which passed legislation last year to create the radio service, the administration will give Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty \$900,000 to begin the project.

Clashes Erupt In Tehran Over Mayor

Agence France-Press

TEHRAN — At least four people were injured when supporters of Tehran's embattled mayor clashed with Islamic hard-liners at the Interior Ministry here Tuesday.

The violence erupted after a speech by Faezeh Hashemi, daughter of former President Hashemi Rafsanjani, in support of the mayor, Gholam-Hossein Karbaschi, witnesses said. Mr. Karbaschi was arrested April 4 on corruption charges.

Witnesses said that at least four people were beaten by ministry security guards and 10 were arrested. The clashes began when a member of a hard-line Islamic group hostile to the mayor and other moderates in President Mohammad Khatami's government asked Miss Hashemi a question that angered the audience.

Mr. Karbaschi's supporters attacked fundamentalists in the crowd of about 2,000 to 3,000 people that had gathered to hear Miss Hashemi. The Interior Ministry has organized an exhibition lauding the mayor's achievements.

Miss Hashemi, a moderate member of Parliament, rejected the charges of corruption against Mr. Karbaschi that led to the mayor's arrest.

Earlier Tuesday, the police dispersed a group of 300 students demonstrating in front of Tehran University in support of the mayor.

U.S. to Broadcast in Persian
U.S. officials said Tuesday that the Clinton administration, under pressure from Senate Republicans, would create a Persian-language radio service to beam anti-government propaganda into Iran. The New York Times reported from Washington.

Both the White House and State Department had argued that such a move ran counter to the administration's strategy of trying to find small gestures that would bolster Mr. Khatami's standing and even move Iran's leadership to accept direct talks with the United States.

Under an emerging agreement with Congress, which passed legislation last year to create the radio service, the administration will give Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty \$900,000 to begin the project.

Sir Ian MacGregor, 85, Dies; Broke Power of U.K. Unions

The Associated Press

LONDON — Sir Ian MacGregor, a Scottish industrialist who helped crush a yearlong coal miners' strike and break the power of Britain's unions in the mid-1980s, died Sunday at age 85, family friends said.

The former National Coal Board chairman, who lived in Bermuda, suffered a heart attack while staying with friends in Somerset, southwest England.

Former Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher said Sir Ian "brought a breath of fresh air to British industry."

Sir Ian's career was marked by stints in

both the British and U.S. steel industries. In 1980, he was named chairman of the state British Steel Corp., where he gained a reputation as a tough manager by cutting 100,000 jobs to reduce costs.

In March 1984, shortly after becoming chairman of the National Coal Board, miners began a strike after contract talks broke down. Lady Thatcher and Sir Ian remained firm, buying cheap foreign coal, and the strike collapsed after a year.

Mick McGahey, a former leader of Scottish miners, said Sunday that Lady Thatcher had appointed Sir Ian "to destroy trade unionism not only in mining, but in Britain."

Sir Ian was knighted in 1986.

Alex Ritchie, 52, Balloonist

NEW YORK (NYT) — Alex Ritchie, 52, a British balloonist who clambered atop an airborne balloon's gondola last year to jettison fuel tanks, halting a crash-dived, died Saturday in London.

The cause of death was injuries he sustained in January in a skydiving accident after his parachute failed to open, according to The Associated Press.

In the ballooning incident, which occurred in January 1997, Mr. Ritchie was part of a crew trying to circle the globe in a balloon sponsored by Richard Branson, the British entrepreneur.

Francis Durrbridge, 85, TV Writer

LONDON (AP) — Francis Durrbridge, 85, creator of the popular radio and television detective Paul Temple, died Saturday in Barnes, England, following a long illness. The Paul Temple adventures ran for three decades on BBC radio, starting in 1938, and made their television debut in 1968.



Archbishop Desmond Tutu, head of the truth panel, after the Botha trial was adjourned Tuesday.

Prosecutor Sets Deadline for Botha

Agence France-Press

GEORGE, South Africa — The chief prosecutor in the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's case against former President P. W. Botha has set a deadline of 8 A.M. Wednesday for opposing lawyers to strike a deal that would halt the case.

The state prosecutor, Bruce Morrison, told the court after hours of intensive discussions during an adjournment Tuesday that the parties were "very close to reaching an agreement" but had not yet struck a deal.

He said Attorney General Frank Kahn "has made it clear that unless the parties reach agreement by 8 A.M. the matter will proceed."

The imposition of a deadline came after hours of talks between lawyers for the Truth and Reconciliation Commission and the 82-year-old apartheid-era hard-liner.

Mr. Botha went on trial earlier Tuesday for refusing to testify before the commission, which is investigating human rights abuses committed during the apartheid era.

But when the case was adjourned for further discussion after only 10 minutes, it appeared likely that a compromise would be reached that would allow Mr. Botha to give testimony before a specially arranged commission hearing, in return, the case would be dropped.

DEFENSE: Could Europe's Many National Weapons Makers Make a United Stand?

Continued from Page 1

pean Aerospace & Defense Co." — that would resemble a U.S. defense leader in making aircraft, helicopters, missiles and other kinds of weapons.

The other is to group producers of the same categories of weapons into stand-alone operations — using the "Airbus template" in which the consortium's partners are moving to pool their airliner work under a single management.

For the moment, the report concluded, Europe is not ready to move on either option — and delay would be the worst outcome of all, according to analysts.

For the United States, Europe's quandary is alarming, according to a Pentagon-based analyst who recently visited European capitals to discuss the problem. Not even U.S. defense companies can expect to profit in the long run, regardless of the short-term opportunities, he said, if their European counterparts head into a dead end.

The result, quickly, would be stiffer European protectionism, blocking U.S. access to European markets and causing bad blood in Washington, damaging NATO and poisoning the trans-Atlantic security relationship.

Strategically, Washington would find itself pulling away faster than ever from its European allies. Indeed, the analyst said, European governments must consolidate their defense industries quickly to fully enter the era of heavily computerized warfare that is already

revolutionizing U.S. military forces. The problems are deeply rooted in Europe, however. Defense industries have historically been a special case in most countries' economies, often functioning virtually as extensions of the armed services that are their prime customers. But in Europe, they have actually been run by the owner governments.

Since the Cold War's end, however, they have become more like ordinary industries, striving to contain costs, retooling as markets dwindle, seeking overseas outlets and attracting big investments to fund the increasingly expensive research and development for new products, including armaments.

The situation seems ripe, the aerospace report said, for massive U.S.-style consolidation. In Europe, megamergers pose enormous problems because they raise all the cultural tensions that arise in cross-border deals.

But they offer a double bounce if they come off. Besides rationalizing production, the stronger companies that emerge as multinationals would have guaranteed access to all of Europe's once-restricted national markets.

Industrialists have already identified the key sectors that could be stand-alone pan-European manufacturers as well as the building blocks of a single monolith. The aerospace report, sources said, identified several of these zones, including:

• A missile-maker. It would be forged from sections of British Aerospace, Daimler-Benz Aerospace, the French

state-run Aerospatiale, Matra of France, Alenia of Italy and some smaller European companies.

• A defense-electronics giant. This would combine the French giant, Thomson; another giant, General Electric of Britain; Matra and Daimler-Benz. On Tuesday, Thomson was expected to announce terms of its alliance with Dassault Electronique, part of a larger plan to regroup French defense electronics activities, including those of Aerospatiale and Alcatel Alsthom.

• An aerospace company. The crown jewel, this sector would group three of Europe's top prime defense contractors: British Aerospace, Daimler-Benz and Aerospatiale, along with the combat aircraft division of Dassault, the privately owned maker of the Mirage and Rafale fighters. Quick to join would be Alenia, probably Saab of Sweden and smaller companies from Spain and elsewhere.

Consolidating Europe's defense work into a single European company for each category of weapons would rationalize the industry and make it globally competitive, but it would also involve cutting jobs, relocating facilities and negotiating trade-offs at a European level. To save national feelings, each industry would need to keep a headquarters, research and development labs and some manufacturing in each country, analysts say.

Despite the lumbering pace in some countries, especially France, the old stable of defense companies, often state-owned, has been severely winnowed

over the last few years across Europe. Britain and Germany have consolidated their defense work in the hands of a few companies, and smaller countries have closed down their industries or sold them, in most cases to British companies, which have been aggressive about acquisitions in defense.

In Britain, British Aerospace and GEC-Marconi, the defense electronics giant, have absorbed their domestic competitors, including such companies as Ferranti that were once household names. For several years, they have been buying up or taking control of companies in other European countries. For example, the state-owned Finmeccanica of Italy last month made the defense electronics unit of Alenia part of a \$1 billion joint venture with General Electric.

Germany has consolidated its aerospace work — military and civil aircraft, helicopters, missiles and satellites — into Daimler-Benz Aerospace, which digested all of the government's holdings. The company tried its wings by taking over Fokker, the troubled Dutch planemaker, but the venture crashed amid accusations about the German giant's lack of technical know-how and inability to meld the companies' business cultures.

France, in contrast, still has two or more companies where its rivals have cut back to one or none. Defense electronics are made by Thomson-CSF. The state-owned giant was recently privatized after a botched first attempt and is owned by Dassault, the plane and avionics maker that has always had very close ties to French politicians, and by Matra, a private company that has been unusually open to joint ventures with other European companies. French aircraft come from Dassault and state-owned Aerospatiale, missiles from Aerospatiale and Matra.

Aerospace is the centerpiece of the defense puzzle, industrialists say, because of the companies' size and visibility. The spotlight is already on this sector because of Airbus, which is to become a stand-alone company with its own management. Success in that reorganization will bring closer a merger of all Europe's aviation manufacturing — bringing combat and civil work under one roof.

That would enable Airbus to match Boeing's hopes of getting savings and technological synergies in its own commercial work and the military contracts it acquired in buying McDonnell Douglas.

But Airbus could be buffered if the wider defense industry fails to materialize.

Signs that European defense industries are stumbling have prompted Lockheed Martin and Boeing to invite European companies to join in the new U.S. joint strike fighter or other ventures in which they could be subcontractors, a campaign that alarms many Europeans.

Accusing the United States of seeking global dominance in defense technologies, Mr. Bischoff of Daimler-Benz Aerospace warned in an unusually outspoken speech in February in Munich that time was running out for Germany and neighboring countries to produce a design for "Europeanization" of both defense and defense policy.

If governments cannot deliver, Europe's defense industry will transform anyway, he said, but in that case "the transformation will take place only between European private-sector companies, or trans-Atlantic alliances will be formed."

In the meantime, Fiat has announced the retirement this June of its longtime chairman, Cesare Romiti, the rough-talking businessman who restored the company's fortunes in the 1970s, and his replacement by Paolo Fresco, a vice chairman of General Electric Co.

Mr. Agnelli credits successive Italian governments with making the enormous efforts required to meet the euro's standards — trimming the national budget deficit, cutting social spending and privatizing Italy's large state sector. With its recent purchase of 0.6 percent of the shares of Telecom, the Italian telephone company, the Agnelli family, through IFI, showed its readiness to be a player in the next phase of capitalism.

That investment once again brought criticism about the long arm of the Agnellis. But it is criticism that Mr. Agnelli brushes off with an airy noblesse oblige.

"There was a reaction in the way that people say we've got too much," he said. "But on the whole, in the way of looking at problems, and at running things, I think they trust us more than others."

KOREA: Searching for Family

Continued from Page 1

Millions more have some relatives, including distant cousins, in the North. Mr. Cho helped found a private group that sifts through North Korean newspapers and any other available sources to try to track relatives of South Koreans.

For decades, Mr. Cho tried to find out something about his family. He presumed his relatives had moved from the rather grand home in which he had grown up because his father had been a well-off landowner.

"Being able to see family is a right that everyone in the world has except here in Korea," he said. "It's indescribable the pain, the tragedy of waiting for so long in the hopes of seeing your own family."

President Kim Dae Jung's willingness to engage the North since his election in December is a large part of the reason there is new optimism that families will be able to communicate with relatives soon, and perhaps even see them.

As always, there is skepticism about North Korean intentions. Several times in the past Pyongyang has said it would allow family visits and then at the last moment insisted on a demand that killed the deal.

Mr. Cho said it once demanded that Seoul broadcast a Communist drama called "Blood Sea," knowing the South Koreans would refuse. In 1985, 50 relatives from each side visited one another, but the visits were stopped without explanation.

Time is running out for old men such as Mr. Cho, and as they age, their requests are becoming more insistent.

"What I want to tell the world is that



Cho Dong Young holding back the tears as he spoke Tuesday of the family he had not heard from since leaving North Korea 51 years ago.

people like me are getting old, and they deserve to see their loved ones before they die," Mr. Cho said.

As he spoke, an 82-year-old man walked into his group's office in Seoul and asked for help in finding his family.

"I want to see my son," he said.

When the Korean War started in 1950, the man said, he fled to the South, along with millions of other men who feared being shot, imprisoned or rounded up for military service. He left behind his pregnant wife and 6-year-old son.

"I hoped I would be able to go back and see them in a week," he said.

Instead, his wife died, apparently from lack of food, before she delivered the child. He has received letters from his son via China. He once waited along

the China-North Korea border for 15 days as he tried to arrange for his son to escape.

The man, who asked not to be identified, said many South Koreans who hope to smuggle out their relatives or contact them through third parties hide their identities for fear that Pyongyang will punish their relatives.

The father, a retired electronics salesman, said he had seen a photo of his son as a grown man in which the son appeared tall but weighed only about 45 kilograms (100 pounds). He said all he can imagine is that the happy little boy of his memories is now sick, hungry and needing him.

"It is tearing my heart apart," he said. "I need to see him before I die."

AGNELLI: Patriarch and Magnate Shrugs Off the Years as He Views a Reforming Italy

Continued from Page 1

Mikhail Gorbachev? "Such a nice man, and he's in such difficulty," Fidel Castro? "He's very bourgeois. He speaks a good French, a little English, but if you talk to him about anything serious, it's pure Marxism."

Now, as Italy celebrates its admission last month into the elite club of Europe's pending monetary union, Mr. Agnelli and the business world he has long represented are facing a big change.

The old way of doing business in Italy was through closed-door deals among a few powerful families, masterminded by a secretive Milan-based investment bank that served as their personal broker. Even before the coming of the euro, as the new European currency is called, that system was dying out.

But pressures are increasing for the creation of a market that is even more open, more competitive and, ultimately, less tied to the fortunes of the Agnellis and Italy's other great quasi-feudal families. As the most cosmopolitan of Italian

businessmen, with flawless English and French, Mr. Agnelli himself is more outward-looking than many of his peers. Yet his family company, through its principal holding company, IFI, has also been the linchpin of the close-knit network of Italian capital that for decades has been bound together by Mediobanca of Milan.

Unlike some in that circle, Mr. Agnelli has never been the least bit ambiguous about his stand on Italy's joining the euro.

"I was personally in favor of a single currency and always believed that it would happen, even in the darkest days," he said. Had Italy failed to make the grade, he said, the result would have been a "tragedy — a terrible thing for the government, for the country and for the morale of Italians psychologically."

"You have to look at what has been done in Italy between 1992 and today," he said. "Now, it is one of the Continental European countries which are joining the same goal. Then, we were in trouble."

Joining the European currency — and by extension, the Continent's ambitions

to compete successfully on a shrinking world stage — will put more pressure on Italy, Mr. Agnelli said. "Now we start," he said. "Italy will have to engage with strong partners in a difficult battle. We've got to reform a lot of the old-fashioned way of doing things."

Mr. Agnelli's nephew and designated successor, Giovanni Alberto Agnelli, whose death from cancer at the age of 33 sent Italy into public mourning last December, was the first to signal publicly the family's readiness to shift with the times. In an interview in 1996, he spoke of the coming "generational change" that was necessary.

Within days of the younger Mr. Agnelli's death, his family assured its future place in the automaker Fiat, where it controls 33 percent of the shares, with the nomination of John Elkann, the 22-year-old son of the elder Mr. Agnelli's daughter, Margherita, to its board.

"I think he has all the qualifications to be a helpful person," said Mr. Agnelli, whose own 44-year-old son, Eduardo, has been passed over in the succession.

In the meantime, Fiat has announced the retirement this June of its longtime chairman, Cesare Romiti, the rough-talking businessman who restored the company's fortunes in the 1970s, and his replacement by Paolo Fresco, a vice chairman of General Electric Co.

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U.S. Alarm on

Apple Drops Dalai

From Asia Ad Cam

Report to

Clinton: President to

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Clinton: President to

Clinton: President to

EDITORIALS/OPINION

Herald Tribune

PUBLISHED WITH THE NEW YORK TIMES AND THE WASHINGTON POST

Time for Debt Relief

Bill Clinton went to Africa last month expecting to talk about the benefits of increased trade. He found leaders who wanted to talk about the urgent need for debt relief, and no wonder. For many of the poorest nations of Africa and Latin America, nothing matters more. Many are struggling under a burden of debt so crushing that the aid and trade income they receive simply gets recycled back north in the form of interest payments. Meanwhile, little is left to pay for health, education and other programs that could begin to relieve poverty.

Two years ago the major creditor nations, including the United States, acknowledged the foolishness of this debt service carousel. Together with the World Bank and the IMF, they shaped the first comprehensive program of debt relief for countries that were pursuing reasonable policies likely to produce economic growth. Their plan was hailed as a major breakthrough for developing nations.

In practice, results have been modest. Only six countries have been approved for debt relief (four in Africa and two in South America), and only three will actually receive any assistance by the end of this year. Many more countries that badly need help will not be eligible, under the plan's stringent criteria, for years to come.

These criteria include a record of six unbroken years of good economic performance. The impulse behind this condition is right; there is no point in extending aid to regimes that will squander it. But inflexibly making every country wait so long risks missing an opportunity to help countries that really want to help themselves. Many governments dedicated to poverty reduction and economic growth simply will not survive six years without debt relief.

Oxfam International, one of the advocacy groups that has led the fight for debt relief, notes that the international community quickly mobilized more than \$100 billion in credit to ease Asia's financial crisis, but that in Africa — where the per-country needs often run in the hundreds of millions — the political will is missing.

President Clinton says he promised President Nelson Mandela and other African leaders to "see what I could do to make sure that we give as much aid as we possibly can" and "to stay on top of this" once he returned to Washington. This week, with the world's finance ministers in Washington for the annual meetings of the World Bank and the IMF, would be a good time to begin redeeming that promise.

—THE WASHINGTON POST

Decline in Ukraine

Last year, Ukraine and Turkmenistan were the only former Soviet republics to see their official economies shrink. Ukraine's steady decline is the main reason why voters abandoned the relatively reformist governing party in parliamentary elections on March 30. The big winner was the Communist Party, a group so troglodytic that it favors "voluntary reunification" with Russia. The vote practically ensures that Ukraine will see none of the reforms that the country needs.

Since its independence in 1991, Ukraine has had some limited economic success, largely thanks to the skill of the central bank governor, Viktor Yushchenko. The inflation rate, 10,000 percent five years ago, is around 10 percent today. About half the economy is now in private hands, compared with 70 percent in Russia.

But privatization has not generated economic growth. Important areas, like agriculture, have yet to be touched. The tax system is arbitrary, burdening legitimate businesses and driving them into the shadow economy. Regulation is stifling — setting up a construction company requires some 50 different licenses, virtually all of which must be accompanied by bribes. President Leonid Kuchma and his allies in the Parliament introduced an important package of reforms in 1996, but it died, a victim of the pervasive corruption that is choking modernization and driving away investment.

Ukraine's economy also suffers from the country's uneven progress in democratic reforms. Ukraine is one of a handful of former Soviet republics that have had relatively clean parliamentary elections and changed their presidents. Its treatment of national minorities is also good, and it has shown the political maturity to give up its nuclear weapons. But Ukraine's newspapers and especially its television stations are politicized and controlled to the point where they cannot keep an eye on the government.

Ukraine is the fourth-largest recipient of American aid, but that assistance may be cut in half under a misguided new law requiring the administration to certify that the country is making progress on the problems of a few American investors. The World Bank and the IMF should condition their assistance on steps like tax and regulatory reforms designed to speed economic growth. Ukraine's politicians need a clear message that economic reform cannot wait.

—THE NEW YORK TIMES

The Party of Pork

Back when they did not have much power, congressional Republicans were united over the federal budget because they believed in a world defined by a few simple evils: the deficit, spending, taxes, Democrats. But now that they control Congress and are facing surpluses instead of deficits, the party is more divided over budget policy than it has been in a generation. There is confusion about which, if any, tax cuts to favor. Some members have developed a strong taste for pork. Their divisions give President Bill Clinton an upper hand not contemplated a year ago.

Before the Easter recess, Republicans were waging what amounted to a civil war over who could spend more. Their focus was a highway bill loaded with so many embarrassingly porcine projects that Republicans now fear that Mr. Clinton could actually veto it, tagging them as the party of profligacy.

Things got so bad that the champion deficit hawk, John Kasich, chairman of the House Budget Committee, was said to be barely on speaking terms with Bud Shuster, champion of old-fashioned interstate largesse.

Fights over such issues forced the House to miss the statutory deadline for passing a budget resolution this month. The Senate met the deadline, but only after papering over differences. The budget resolution, for example, called for only \$30 billion in tax cuts, to be paid for by offsets on spending or taxes. It passed, however, only after conservatives were assured by that champion of federal aid for the vitally essential Mississippi shippards.

Trent Lott, that it did not mean what it said. The majority leader assured them that the package would be much bigger, apparently to be paid for by revenues from a tobacco settlement.

Republicans are also riven by philosophical disagreements over which tax cuts to pursue. Some want incentives to expand health insurance programs, others a tax break for married couples; still others want to subsidize personal retirement accounts. They are hoping to pay for them from the tobacco settlement or larger than anticipated budget surpluses. Both are problematical, especially now that tobacco companies have rejected the tobacco settlement emerging in the Senate. But the Republicans' discovery of windfall politics shows that the Democrats do not have a monopoly when it comes to inventing miracle cures for budget crises.

Underneath these disputes is a sense of dread among Republicans over the opportunity that their squabbling gives to Mr. Clinton. He has insisted that any budget surplus be set aside not for tax cuts but to shore up the Social Security system in the long-term future.

Republicans also know that at a certain moment they will be under enormous pressure to make some concessions to Mr. Clinton to spend at least a little more money on child care, schools and the environment.

The world of surpluses has, in short, turned politics in Washington inside out, and robbed the party of austerity of the unity and moral certainty it enjoyed when it was in the business of back-bench sniping instead of leadership.

—THE NEW YORK TIMES

More Hurdles Ahead for a Remarkable Agreement

By Garret FitzGerald

DUBLIN — Last Friday's remarkable Belfast Agreement between Northern Ireland parties and the British and Irish governments surprised most people in the two islands. Three decades of violence and failed attempts at settlements had created a mood of almost universal pessimism.

Why were those widespread doubts confounded? A major factor, of course, was the desire of the Sinn Féin/IRA leadership to move from violence to constitutional politics.

During the 1970s the IRA repudiated politics, pursuing a purely terrorist agenda. However, the boost in support from nationalists that it secured as a result of the disastrous British handling of the 1981 hunger strike tempted it to change its strategy by combining politics with terrorism — the new policy of "the Armalite and the ballot box."

By the time of the 1983 British general election, and despite their persistence with violence, Sinn Féin had the support of 35 percent of Northern nationalists. It seemed set to expand this support to the point where it might replace the constitutional Social Democratic and Labour Party as the largest nationalist party in Northern Ireland.

There were fears that such a success might embolden the IRA to raise its violence to a civil war level, threatening the security of the whole island. Returning to office in late 1982, after nine months in opposition, I decided in these circumstances that I must abandon, for the time being, fruitless efforts to find agreement with the Unionist politicians of the North, which had always been my preferred approach. Instead I would seek an agreement with Margaret Thatcher that would be designed to reduce the alienation of Northern nationalists, and thus to draw them back from Sinn Féin to support for the constitutional SDLP.

In November 1985 such an agreement was signed. It promised to give

nationalists a better deal, and for the first time gave the Irish government a "droit de regard" in Northern Ireland. Nationalist support for Sinn Féin fell back by one-third, to 23 percent.

Years were to pass before it transpired that these events had also had the desired effect of making Sinn Féin/IRA think again about their dual "Armalite and ballot box" strategy.

In 1993 it emerged that the Sinn Féin leader Gerry Adams had since 1986 been considering a new approach, and had finally been persuaded by his SDLP rival, John Hume, to consider proposing to his IRA colleagues a cessation of violence with a view to a negotiated settlement.

The road to such a negotiation proved to be rocky, initially because of Unionist and British resistance to the idea

Blair's arrival in power changed the whole atmosphere.

of negotiating with Sinn Féin while the IRA wing of the organization retained its arms and explosives. But, despite the breakdown of the cease-fire over this issue, the negotiation eventually got under way, albeit at a snail's pace.

Labour's arrival in power in Britain changed the whole atmosphere. John Major had been prevented from making progress by his narrow majority in Parliament and his dependence on Unionist votes there, but also by doubts about the support he would receive on this issue within his cabinet. By contrast, Tony Blair has an overwhelming parliamentary majority and is in total command of his cabinet.

A further advantage that the present

British government enjoys has been that, unlike previous secretaries of state for Northern Ireland, Mr. Mowlem had advance notice of her appointment and was able to spend several years reading herself in and getting to know all the key players personally.

The negotiation was also helped by the fact that for the first time in a quarter of a century there had emerged an active groundswell of Unionist support for a settlement. Not alone the Protestant Churches but also the business community and many voluntary bodies put the Ulster Unionist Party negotiators under powerful pressure to compromise for peace.

Moreover, this time around, strongly led political parties representing the two main working-class loyalist paramilitary organizations (which in 1974 had brought down a short-lived power-sharing Executive) backed a settlement, actively pushing the much larger middle-class UUP toward compromise.

Finally, a new positive factor this time has been the close involvement of the United States in the whole process. In the past Washington remained detached; and because any potential American involvement was seen as likely to be one-sided, favoring the nationalists, that may have been just as well.

But now President Bill Clinton became fully engaged personally. And by showing a strikingly evenhanded approach during his visit to Ireland in 1995 he gained credibility that enabled him, at the joint request of the British and Irish governments, to intervene repeatedly and effectively with both sides during the final sleepless 33 hours of this negotiation.

The agreement negotiated with the help of all those favorable factors is, however, complex, delicately balanced and vulnerable in the months ahead to a range of possible shocks.

This very Wednesday it faces two hurdles. One is a meeting of the Grand

Orange Lodge, which could well move to oppose the agreement.

The other is a meeting of the 10 Westminster MPs of David Trimble's UUP, three of whom support the agreement and four of whom oppose it. If all three of these last were to vote against it today, they could also move to replace Mr. Trimble as parliamentary party leader. That could greatly weaken his position in Northern Ireland.

Next weekend the agreement must clear two further hurdles: a Sinn Féin party conference and a meeting of the 800-member Ulster Unionist Council.

Despite the fact that the settlement falls far short of Sinn Féin/IRA objectives, Gerry Adams and his influential colleague, Martin McGuinness, seem confident of persuading both the party and its military wing, the IRA, to accept or at least not oppose the agreement, and to authorize the Sinn Féin leadership to apply if — although this will probably be at the cost of losing some important figures from the party.

By contrast, the UUP leader, Mr. Trimble, who in fact has a major negotiating success to report, is more delicately placed. He could face a split in his party.

Next, the agreement has to be accepted in separate but simultaneous referendums in the North and South, probably on May 22. The result in the South is not in doubt. In the North, where 42 percent of the voters are nationalists, the agreement will probably be accepted, but it is not certain that a majority of Unionists will vote for it.

If it appeared that Mr. Trimble had not secured the support of a majority of Unionists, this would create difficulties for him in the election to the Assembly several weeks later. In order for the new Northern Ireland Executive to get off the ground, pro-agreement Unionists must secure at least 40 percent of their side's seats in the Assembly.

There remains at least one further obstacle to a successful launch of this new political arrangements. Unionists understandably find it hard to swallow the idea of sharing power in the Executive with Mr. Adams, and perhaps also with Mr. McGuinness.

In the final moments of the negotiation, the UUP delegation nearly abandoned ship over this issue. It was in fact only after Mr. Blair had given Mr. Trimble a side letter to the effect that Sinn Féin could serve in the Executive only after IRA arms decommissioning had started that Mr. Trimble was persuaded by President Clinton in a final urgent telephone call to sign — at the cost of losing there and then a member of his negotiating team.

As the agreement makes membership of the Executive dependent only on Sinn Féin using "democratic, non-violent means," and gives it two years to decommission, there is a possibility of confusion and perhaps conflict here.

In addition to recalcitrant politicians, there are also dissident paramilitaries, on both sides, who are determined to wreck this agreement — and they have weapons and explosives.

There is thus a long and tortuous way to go before we can be sure that this agreement is going to give Northern Ireland peace and stability. But there is also a real chance that it will do so.

The writer, a former Irish prime minister, contributed this comment to the *International Herald Tribune*.

All the While, Irish Realities Were Changing

By Fintan O'Toole

NEW YORK — If the Northern Ireland deal does not have deep roots, it will be blown away. There are, though, good reasons to believe that it arises not from a passing moment but from some fundamental shifts.

In 1968, it was possible to see the war between Irish Catholic nationalism and Protestant British unionism as a clash of civilizations. The Republic, with which Catholics identified, was still predominantly rural. Northern Irish Protestants belonged to a strongly urban and industrial world.

The terms "Irish" and "British" were shorthand for a great deal more than national identity. You could use them to guess with reasonable accuracy what kind of work people did, whether they used contraceptives (and how many children they had), what sort of sports they played. Yet, precisely in the years of the conflict, this gradually became impossible.

Even in the early 1970s, GDP per head in the Republic was just half what it was in the United Kingdom. And implicit in the contrast was a belief that this was not coincidental. As the Protestants saw it, the Irish were poor because they were Catholic. They were, in the Protestant imagination, priest-ridden peasants.

Now the Republic has a higher GDP per capita than Britain. It is a predominantly urban society. The political power of the Catholic Church has been broken. Catholics, on the whole, use contraceptives and have the same number of children as Protestants do. They are more likely to be making Pentium microchips than growing potatoes.

While all of this was going on, the once mighty industries of Northern Ireland were becoming obsolete. The shipyards and engineering works that were still the pride of Protestant Belfast in 1968 have long since dwindled.

British identity has been no more stable than Irish identity. In 1968, it was still possible to imagine Britain as an imperial power. The symbols that Northern Irish Protestants valued — the monarchy, the empire, the United Kingdom — have lost their glamour.

Yet both sides in the conflict tended to collude in a pretense that all of this change was not happening.

Protestants and Catholics had a mutual interest in the image of the Republic as a poor backwater. For Protestants, it served as a warning of what would happen if they moved away

from the British fold and as an excuse for prejudice and discrimination.

For Catholics, it served as evidence of British perfidy, and proof that Ireland could never prosper so long as any part of it remained "unfree."

Likewise, the image of Britain as a mighty imperial power suited each of the warring tribes. For Protestants, it was a source of pride and comfort. For Catholics, it suggested that they were part of the great decolonizing movement of the postwar world. For those in both communities who sympathized with the proponents of armed terror, it lent an aura of epic grandeur to squalid and intimate cruelties.

Violent division has the strange effect of making people overestimate their enemies. Catholics and Protestants could see that their own communities were in flux; neither could see that what was happening to it was also happening to the other side. In a sense, the real question about the peace deal is not why it has come now, but why it did not come a long time ago.

This comment has been taken from a longer article in *The Washington Post*. The writer is a columnist for *The Irish Times* in Dublin and the *Daily News* in New York.

Four Challenges for the World's Economic Leadership

By Dominique Strauss-Kahn

WASHINGTON — The currency crises of 1997 were a traumatic blow for the Asian countries. They also represent a significant shock for the world economy. Their consequences in Europe and the United States have not been fully felt yet, because liquidity shortages and disorganization have so far hampered the expansion of East Asian exports.

The good news (a fall in commodity prices and a flight to quality assets in financial markets) has thus preceded bad news (a trade shock and financial losses).

With the recovery in Europe well under way, European growth seems to me resilient enough to sail safely through troubled waters. But the Asian crisis will nevertheless take a toll on the world economy.

Vigilance is required on the structural side, too. The international community has succeeded in avoiding outright default and in limiting the contagion of the crisis, but the Asian shock could give rise to trade friction. After the relative price of Asian labor has been adjusted downward, a number of industries will confront increasing competition from highly competitive producers, and the trade-and-jobs debate will soon re-emerge in Europe and the United States.

The crisis will also continue sending shock waves throughout the emerging world and countries in transition. And the disruptions caused by the exchange turmoil will weaken support for financial globalization. Already, public opinion and commentators in Asia question the validity of external liberalization.

Policy makers in industrialized as well as emerging countries should therefore resist complacency, and hang together to address the consequences of the crisis in a cooperative way. This applies to the United States, to Japan, and to Europe, which has strong links with

Asia and a major stake in the region's recovery.

There are now four main challenges before us: to facilitate the recovery of East Asian countries; to resist protectionism; to manage the upcoming international adjustment; and to draw from the recent events lessons for reforming the international architecture.

Facilitate recovery in countries in crisis. Asia is in a process of stabilization, but the political and social cost of the crisis will be very significant. There will be numerous failures, unemployment will reach unprecedented levels, and economic restructuring will be painful.

There is therefore a strong case for continuing to offer credit to countries in crisis, in order to foster adjustment of the external shocks, as well as for providing technical and financial assistance to address the social adjustment costs. This is an area in which Europe has experience and could help through the European-Asian Trust Fund created at the recent Asia-Europe summit.

Furthermore, as Asian countries are highly interdependent economically, regional cooperation is key in facilitating the recovery. In the present context, priority should be given to maintaining trade links and to avoiding a new round of exchange rate turmoil.

Further avenues include macroeconomic surveillance, as well as monetary and exchange rate cooperation. This is an area in which Europe also has experience, and we stand ready to share it.

Resist protectionism. Financial and monetary turmoil fuels protectionist pressures. We know that bowing to these pressures would be the worst solution for all.

As the consequences of the crisis unfold both in Asia and in the rest of the world, proponents

of economic nationalism will inevitably become increasingly vocal. All members of the international community should reject calls for protection and strive to turn the crisis into an opportunity for further opening.

The industrialized countries should maintain the current level of market access and avoid recourse to contingent protection measures to dampen the coming rise in Asian exports.

Asian countries should dismantle protection in sheltered sectors, and carry out action plans to open up to direct investment from industrialized countries.

Manage international adjustment. World growth has lost the speed of the European engine is accelerating, and Europe will thus succeed Asia as a major contributor to world growth and trade. Together with the resilience of U.S. growth, this will assist the Asian recovery.

And I also hope that Japan will soon carry out effective fiscal refraction measures, which are in its own interest.

The Asian shock will however affect the current account positions of Europe, the United States and Japan. Forecasts indicate that without a strong Japanese recovery, a further deterioration in the U.S. current account balance should be envisaged.

A temporary worsening of the current account position should not necessarily be considered as a problem. However, we should not be complacent in this field, either. In the period ahead, the Group of Seven will have to monitor output, inflation and current account positions, and enhance the quality of international coordination.

Exchange rate developments, in particular, will have to be monitored closely. This will be the priority topic for the newly established Euro-11 council.

whose tasks include policy coordination and monitoring of the exchange rate of the euro.

Reform the international financial architecture. The Asian crisis once again highlights the fragility of the international financial regime, and so an intense debate has begun on the lessons to be drawn.

Recent events have once again demonstrated that economic openness is an essential ingredient in growth and development, but that unfettered liberalization does not necessarily deliver them. Smoothly functioning markets require information and institutions.

No one has a quick fix to reduce financial volatility and to improve the quality of economic policies in emerging countries. We should thus address the problem from several angles, in an attempt at finding

concrete ways to make markets more stable, global finance more resilient, and policies more robust.

This will require changes in the way economic and financial information is made available to market participants, in the supervision of the financial sector, and in the multilateral surveillance of national policies, as well as improvements in the arrangements for international assistance to countries in crisis.

The Group of Seven was established to provide political leadership in the management of international interdependence. Let us show that it is still able to provide it.

The writer is the French minister for economy, finance and industry. He contributed this comment to the *International Herald Tribune*.

IN OUR PAGES: 100, 75 AND 50 YEARS AGO

1898: Spanish Dissent

MADRID — The *Correo Español* publishes a manifesto issued by Don Carlos, duke of Madrid. He says he promised to reader assistance to Spain if courage was shown in accepting the challenge thrown out by the Washington Government. On the other hand, if a policy of national humiliation is followed by the Government he and his followers will forcibly snatch the reins of office from the men who thus show themselves unworthy to hold them.

1923: Unkissed Man

BOSTON — While Columbia University may boast of twenty-one unkissed students, Harvard is without an unkissed man on her rolls. That is if George R. McLeod plucked up his courage sufficiently. Publicity and the stares of people to whom he was pointed out as "Harvard's un-

kissed man" caused McLeod's rebellion against his status. He sallied forth from the dormitory with the parting to his room mate: "When I come back, Harvard won't have any such person as an unkissed man."

1948: Nazi Women

HAMBURG — An all-women war crimes trial opened here today [April 14]. Facing capital charges were five German women concentration-camp guards. Their alleged victims were more than 3,000 Allied women who were exterminated in the gas chamber of Ravensbrück. All five accused pleaded not guilty. E. Roderick Bowen, opening the prosecution's case, said: "You will be horrified at the depths of degradation to which some of these women stooped. You will be amazed at the bestial brutalities committed by members of what we usually regard as the gentler sex."

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سكنا من الامم

U.S. Brains
PALM BEACH, Fla. — A study by the U.S. Army Medical Research and Development Command shows that the brains of U.S. soldiers are more efficient than those of British soldiers. The study, which was conducted by a team of scientists from the U.S. Army Medical Research and Development Command, found that U.S. soldiers were able to perform tasks more quickly and accurately than British soldiers. The study was conducted over a period of six months and involved a number of different tasks, including memory tests, problem-solving exercises, and physical endurance tests. The results of the study showed that U.S. soldiers were consistently outperformed by British soldiers in all of the tasks tested. The scientists who conducted the study believe that this is due to the fact that U.S. soldiers are trained in a more rigorous and demanding environment than British soldiers. They also believe that the U.S. military's emphasis on physical fitness and mental training is a key factor in its success. The study is part of a larger effort by the U.S. Army to improve its understanding of the human brain and its capabilities. The results of the study will be used to develop new training programs and equipment for U.S. soldiers. The study was published in the *Journal of the American Medical Association*.

Cool Britannia
LONDON — A survey of British people has found that they are more likely to be interested in the lives of U.S. celebrities than in the lives of British celebrities. The survey, which was conducted by a team of researchers from the University of Oxford, found that 65 percent of British people were interested in the lives of U.S. celebrities, compared with 45 percent who were interested in the lives of British celebrities. The researchers believe that this is due to the fact that U.S. celebrities are more widely known and admired than British celebrities. They also believe that the U.S. media's focus on celebrities is a key factor in its popularity. The survey is part of a larger effort by the researchers to understand the relationship between the U.S. and Britain. The results of the survey will be used to develop new programs and policies for the U.S.-Britain relationship. The survey was published in the *British Journal of Sociology*.

Relax, What could go wrong?
A study by the U.S. Army Medical Research and Development Command shows that the brains of U.S. soldiers are more efficient than those of British soldiers. The study, which was conducted by a team of scientists from the U.S. Army Medical Research and Development Command, found that U.S. soldiers were able to perform tasks more quickly and accurately than British soldiers. The study was conducted over a period of six months and involved a number of different tasks, including memory tests, problem-solving exercises, and physical endurance tests. The results of the study showed that U.S. soldiers were consistently outperformed by British soldiers in all of the tasks tested. The scientists who conducted the study believe that this is due to the fact that U.S. soldiers are trained in a more rigorous and demanding environment than British soldiers. They also believe that the U.S. military's emphasis on physical fitness and mental training is a key factor in its success. The study is part of a larger effort by the U.S. Army to improve its understanding of the human brain and its capabilities. The results of the study will be used to develop new training programs and equipment for U.S. soldiers. The study was published in the *Journal of the American Medical Association*.

OPINION/LETTERS

U.S. Brains Alone Can't Power Silicon Valley

By Thomas L. Friedman

PALO ALTO, California — T.J. Rodgers, founder of Cypress Semiconductor, is angry, and he is not a man to hide his feelings. An entire wall of his office is proudly decorated with framed lawsuits filed against his company by rivals. Today what he is angry about is immigration — the lack of it.

Silicon Valley has a huge shortage of computer engineers, and each year it makes up for that shortage by trying to cream off the best brains from around the world and bring them here. But the Clinton-Gore team, caving in to organized labor, has been trying to limit their entry, even though there are not enough Americans to fill these high-tech jobs.

"For every foreign engineer you let me bring into this country and put to work at Cypress, I will guarantee you five new jobs locally to manufacture a microchip, sell the chip, ship the chip, market the chip and administer the chip," says Mr. Rodgers.

"Do I want to take away jobs from Americans? Heck no. If I could hire all the engineers I need locally, I'd love to do it. But I can't. They're just here."

So if we don't bring them here, they will still be engineers in their home countries, only instead of work-

ing for us they will be working for Hitachi or Samsung, and they will compete with us from overseas and take away our wealth."

The facts: Since 1990 there has been a cap of 65,000 H-1B visas per fiscal year (Oct. 1 to Sept. 30) for foreigners coming into America for high-tech and other specialty jobs. In 1997, the 65,000 cap was reached a month before the end of the fiscal year, and this year the cap will be reached in May, so there will be a huge shortage.

Republican Senator Spencer Abraham of Michigan, the grandson of Lebanese immigrants, has sponsored a bill, the American Competitiveness Act, that would lift the cap to 95,000 but also increase spending on high-tech education for low-income students in America. It is a good bill, and it just passed the Judiciary Committee by 12 to 6, despite administration opposition.

The crazy thing is that a computer engineer working in India makes \$6,000 a year, and one in Silicon Valley makes \$60,000 a year. So this is a case of American business not wanting to move high-paying U.S.

jobs to lower-paying countries, but just the opposite.

This is because in the high-tech business there is a real advantage to having your knowledge team together in one place — and right now the place that is the core of this knowledge industry is America.

But if U.S. companies are told to put up "No Vacancy" signs, they are inevitably going to move more knowledge operations overseas, and that will spur more innovation, wealth creation and jobs over there. The idea that America would educate all these foreign computer engineers in U.S. universities and then send them home to compete with America is nuts.

Personally, I favor a very liberal approach to all legal immigration and refugee asylum. Any Haitian who has the guts and energy to build a boat from milk cartons and sail to America's shores is someone I would never turn back. But in the case of high-tech workers, it is so obvious that they are the key to the future. One only hopes that the Senate will ignore the administration and approve the increase.

"Look," says Mr. Rodgers, "the winners and losers in the information age will be differentiated by brainpower. But we have senators, like Ted

Kennedy, who don't see that. They want to send back the first-round draft choices of the intellectual world so that they can compete against us in their homelands."

"Four out of my 10 vice presidents are immigrants. Some 35 percent of my engineers are immigrants. My VP of research — the guy who designs my most advanced chips — is from Cuba."

Would you like the jobs in your country depending on only the engineers your country could produce, or would you like to have access to the top 10 percent of all engineers in the world? The United States is the only country that really has that access today. Japan, Switzerland, Germany — they have no tradition of immigration, and that will be a huge disadvantage to them.

"It takes 2 percent of Americans to feed us all, and 5 percent to make everything we need," notes Mr. Rodgers. "Everything else will be service and information technology, and in that world humans and brains will be the key variable. Any country that would limit its brainpower to a single select group from that country alone is going to self-destruct."

The New York Times

A Glacial Response to 'Titanic'

By Richard Pells

BONN — There are 250,000 people in Iceland. As of March, 100,000 of them had seen "Titanic." In Iceland, as elsewhere in Europe, another American movie has attracted huge audiences and become a cultural phenomenon.

Yet a number of Europeans tell me they refuse to see "Titanic" on principle. What "principle," I ask, do they have in mind? They answer with a litany of complaints about the movie and about American mass

There are many explanations — economic, technological and historical — for the imbalance in the cultural relationships between the two continents. But among the most important is a difference in attitude toward consumers.

As an American temporarily living in Germany, I am struck by the disdain for the needs and opinions of customers, and for the mentality of ordinary people. In many parts of Europe, I have encountered a persistent elitism among intellectuals and academics, a preference for the marginal over the mainstream, a sympathy for the unpopular and incomprehensible. A work of art, it is felt, need not be marketed or hyped; it will naturally find its audience.

Educated Europeans are suspicious of the idea that salesmanship may be indispensable in reaching consumers even of high culture. On the contrary, they believe that commercial success and artistic excellence are incompatible. Thus all those Icelanders buying tickets to "Titanic" prove that the movie cannot be a work of art.

I am not suggesting that, as in America, the customer is always right. But neither are consumers, either in department stores or movie theaters, invariably wrong. Nor should they be ignored by shopkeepers, professors or filmmakers.

In effect, the American regard for the consumer has resulted in a culture that is democratic, one that is accessible to audiences. Consequently, American culture can be vulgar and witless. But it can also be, as in the case of "Titanic," emotionally and artistically compelling for millions of people.

Until European artists and intellectuals take these millions into account, until they relinquish their mistrust of the masses, they will not be able to create works that compete with America's cultural exports.

I do not know whether a European director could have made "Titanic." To do so, he or she would have needed to be as maniacal as James Cameron. And as brilliant a filmmaker,

which raises a final paradox, American culture may be democratic, but it is also the product of talented individuals. "Titanic" reminds us that the creation of culture ultimately depends not on marketing campaigns nor even on audience acceptance, but on an individual's genius and imagination.

The writer, a Fulbright professor at Bonn University, is the author of "Not Like Us: How Europeans Have Loved, Hated and Transformed American Culture Since World War II." He contributed this comment to the International Herald Tribune.

'Cool Britannia' Looks More Like Fool Britannia

By Philip Bowring

LONDON — Asian and European heads of government arriving for the Asia-Europe summit meeting earlier this month were greeted with the latest bit of sloganeering from the Tony Blair public relations machine: Out with fuddy-duddy traditions, in with modern Britain's symbols.

No more Rule Britannia. Now it's Cool Britannia, and Her Majesty's diplomats will be delivering the message of the New Britain to the world.

Also on display was the Blairite Britain enshrined in a "bouncy castle" of small inflatable domes erected on London's Horse Guards Parade. This exhibition, dubbed "powerhouse:uk" was supposed to represent the best of modern Britain. Critics suggested it showed a nation obsessed with style that confuses trendiness with modernity.

It may not matter that old British brands, such as Rolls-Royce, are being sold off. But there is scant sign here of new ones to replace them, or of anything to reverse the decline of British manufacturing know-how.

The "new" Britain on display was a combination of presumption and tackiness that, after less than a year in office, is the hallmark of the Blair administration. Asians were left wondering how the nation ever managed to acquire an empire, and Europeans whether Britain would ever be ready to join the single currency.

Summit participants got a look at Britain, but most Britons were barely aware that Britain was the host of the most important gathering of leaders likely to assemble here for many a year. The start of the meeting made the front page of only one of the five so-called quality British newspapers. The broadcast media were no better, and the tabloids mostly ignored the summit meeting entirely.

Maybe they believe that Britannia "cool" is so sweeping that Messrs. Chirac and Hashimoto, Zhu and Kohl will make a habit of spending springtime in London.

It is true that the Asia-Europe summit meeting was more symbol than substance. But one might have expected that, with Asian turmoil, EMU progress and China's Zhu Rongji making his first foreign trip since being appointed prime minister, the British media might have been able to turn their attention away from parochial issues, reheated scandals and the late Princess Di. But no.

Mr. Blair cannot directly be blamed for this. Trivia, sensationalism, phony scoops and falling standards of news judgment have blighted the British press for several years. However, Mr. Blair is very much in tune with a narrow, parochial and self-absorbed media culture. Ambassadors

plified by Mr. Blair's exploitation of the Princess Di cult and driven by the tabloid media, is replacing both institutional power and grassroots participatory democracy.

The presidential trend might have some merits were it accompanied by an American-style separation of powers. But the lack of checks and balances has contributed to a string of sleazy episodes of influence peddling and jobs for the boys remarkable for a government still so young.

"In just 11 months it has notched up an aggregate of venality, Tammany and perjury which the Tories took years to put on board," said the leftist columnist John Pilger in the New Statesman.

A recent example found Mr. Blair himself intervening with the Italian prime minister on behalf of the business interests of Rupert Murdoch. Though Mr. Murdoch is the largest media owner in Britain, these are not British interests. Mr. Murdoch's use for commercial ends of politicians' assumptions about his media's influence is natural.

Mr. Blair's conniving has been shocking but is perhaps the inevitable consequence of an administration preoccupied with media presentation.

The episode was especially striking for Asian leaders now being lectured by the West about cronyism and improper government-business links.

It fits with New Labour's evident lack of ideology or

core values. It may be good politics in terms of photo opportunities, political horse-trading or the fickle judgments of financial markets to follow most of Margaret Thatcher's social and economic policies, or to be President Bill Clinton's poodle on the grass.

There is scant sign, however, of an administration with the sense of purpose to deal with a real crisis when one arises or to institute radical changes in which it really believes. The Blair government is mostly about appearances.

Meanwhile, two of Britain's larger contributions to the world are under threat at home. Parliamentary government is in decline. And the BBC World Service, once the global voice of the English language, is being eroded to pay for more trendy, trivial domestic programming. Cool Britannia? Fool Britannia.

The writer is a Fulbright professor at Bonn University. He contributed this comment to the International Herald Tribune.

The Blair government, with its mastery of media manipulation, is mostly about appearances.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Russia Today

Regarding "This Isn't the Way to Help Russia" (Opinion, April 1) by Thomas L. Friedman:

Mr. Friedman thinks we Americans fought the Cold War not to contain Russia but to change Russia into a normal, democratic country with which the United States can cooperate on the post-Cold War agenda. He thus opposes NATO expansion, which he sees as strengthening Russian foes of democracy. But the situation is more complicated than this.

I came to Russia in 1990, planning to play a bit part in the transformation of Russia as a teacher of economics. I am still at it, but along the way I have learned a couple of things.

One is that changing Russia into a normal, democratic country ready to live quietly within its own borders is an agenda for a century, not for a decade. American foreign policy today must deal with Russia as it is and as it will be

for a long time, not with a dream-Russia that may exist several generations from now. The Russia that now exists still views itself as a big power only temporarily down on its luck. All of the former Soviet Union and much of the rest of the former Soviet empire are regions still seen as a legitimate sphere of influence.

The states that inhabit that sphere are right to remember Soviet invasions, repressions and deportations, and are fully justified in seeking NATO membership to consolidate their ties with the West.

The other thing I have learned is that Russia is in no hurry to reject its Soviet past. Lenin lies undisturbed in Red Square, and there have been only a handful of name changes to streets, cities and educational institutions dedicated to Bolshevism's bloodiest fanatics. Russians cry foul when SS veterans parade in Latvia, but at home they see parades by pensioners waving Stalin portraits as harmless nostalgia for better times.

It is revealing that Boris

Yeltsin's new prime minister designate, supposedly a member of the post-Cold War generation, professes admiration for the "ideals" of communism, apparently having repudiated only the failed methods of central planning.

The kind of developments that would permit the kind of cooperative relationship between Russia and America that Mr. Friedman dreams of — respect for individual rights, individual responsibility and tolerance, including religious tolerance — are very slow to emerge.

The problem is not that democracy in Russia is still shaky. Democracy in Russia is working: Russia's elected leaders reflect the thoughts of the voters on the important issues of the day. There is no political party in Russia today that represents the kind of changed Russia that Mr. Friedman dreams of. The votes are not there to support such a party.

None of this means that America should treat Russia

as an enemy, or that cooperation in specific areas of common interest is not possible. Nonetheless, while we continue to invest in Russian democracy and to cooperate where we can, we should also move forward with NATO expansion, keeping firmly in mind how things are, not how we wish them to be.

EDWIN G. DOLAN,
Moscow.

The writer is president of the American Institute of Business and Economics in Moscow.

Smoking Abroad

American tobacco companies' targeting of foreign markets, now that their U.S. market is coming under more government control ("Flogging Cigarettes Elsewhere," Opinion, April 1) by Jim Hoagland, has been obvious to many of us living abroad. Restraints on tobacco sales and use, if enacted at all here in Europe, are rarely enforced.

Also, tobacco is a government monopoly in many countries, making tremendous profits and providing sizable tax revenues. Are foreign governments going to abandon all this at the behest of the United States?

We Americans are envious for our economic and military strength but are criticized for trying to be the world's policeman. Should we now become the world's public health officer and spend taxpayers' money to fund anti-smoking campaigns abroad? Do you think anyone would listen if we did?

VINCE MAHLER,
Vienna.

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By A. L. in The Sun (Illustration by A. L.)

'Relax! What could go wrong here in 'Mergerassic Park'?

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Jamaican Music Moves From Materialism Back to the Message

By Larry Rohter
New York Times Service

KINGSTON, Jamaica—Every musical style to emerge from Jamaica over the past 35 years has eventually achieved international popularity. Reggae is part of the vocabulary of every working pop musician. The disc jockeys known as toasters are now acknowledged as the earliest progenitors of rap, and ska has lately become the favorite of skateboarders and punk bands the world over.

But the story has been different with the homegrown style called dancehall. While dominating Jamaican popular music for most of the last decade, dancehall has remained on the fringes of pop consciousness, even though its driving electronic beat and sex- and violence-soaked lyrics would seem to make it a prime candidate for crossover in an era in which the lowest common denominator reigns supreme.

Now, however, an emerging generation of young Jamaican artists is subverting the dancehall scene and improving its prospects for international acceptance by taking the music back to its roots in reggae and Rastafarian utopianism. Instead of celebrating girls and guns, the new breed, led by singers and songwriters like Luciano, Anthony B., Sizzla, Beenie Man and Tony Rebel, urge Jamaicans to save their country and their souls.

The proper function of the Jamaican artist is to be "missionary, visionary and messenger," said Luciano, the sweet-voiced, intensely spiritual vocalist whose stirring songs of redemption and uplift have become virtual anthems here in recent years. "Yes, there are still people around who are singing slack lyrics about the silly things in life, like what they going to do to their woman. But the pendulum is swinging back the other way."

If so, worsening political and economic conditions in Jamaica may be hastening the shift. Growth has ground to a halt, and in 1997 more than 1,000 people were killed here, a murder rate more than three times that of New York City. In such an environment, Jamaicans seem more inclined to reflect than to party, and musicians willing to assume the prophetic role once played by Bob Marley have enhanced their credibility and popularity.

"We Jamaicans see ourselves as a powerful world cultural force, and we can't understand why as a people we can't get the economics right, why the social and political conditions can't be better," explained Carl Bradshaw, a veteran actor and screenwriter who is now director of operations for Island Entertainment Jamaica, the country's leading record label for the last 40 years.

Tony Rebel and Garnet Silk, who died in a fire in 1994, were among the first on the dancehall scene to lead the way back toward the Rastafarian tradition, with its emphasis on social criticism in biblical language.

But a major turning point was the success of Anthony B.'s "Fire Pon Rome," an incendiary attack on wealth and political privilege released in 1996. Quickly banned from the airwaves not because of lewdness but because it was deemed seditious and libelous, the song found a home in the dance halls, pushing aside more frivolous fare and making hits of both "So Many Things," the 22-year-old singer's debut album, and "Universal Struggle," his recent follow-up.

"Even before the song came out, we all knew it was going to be banned, because we named specific people" as responsible for the nation's problems, said Anthony B., whose real name is Keith Anthony Blair. Sizzla, an even more recent and increasingly influential arrival, has tried to take a middle position, striking a balance between Luciano's spirituality and Anthony B.'s rebelliousness. Beenie Man, who started

as rapid-fire and lewd as any rapper and still likes to sing in a heavy patois so as to maintain his roots credentials, specializes in humorous, cutting social commentary.

As a result of the change in mood here, the twin pillars of dancehall music—lascivious lyrics, and Shabba Ranks, who became the movement's boastful hypermacho ambassador thanks to songs like "Wicked Inna Bed"—are now clearly in eclipse.

THE peculiar flavor of the dancehall scene was captured in "Dancehall Queen," a feature film about a humble Kingston street vendor who, like Cinderella, becomes the mysterious queen of the ball. The movie, recently released direct to video in the United States, is now the biggest box-office attraction in Jamaican history. But a strong selling point for the film has been performance scenes

featuring Anthony B. and Beenie Man, who have criticized dancehall's excesses and superficiality.

The effort to transform and reinvent dancehall, however, focuses as much on melody and harmony as on lyrics and fashion. Musicians and listeners alike appear to have grown tired of the genre's increasingly stripped-down and minimalist sound, a product of dancehall's fascination with American hip-hop, which itself derives from the Jamaican tradition of disc jockeys declaiming over instrumental "dub" tracks.

"I was listening to something the other day, and I only heard a drum machine and a voice, so I said to myself, 'What is happening here?'" complained Ernest Ranglin, the guitarist and arranger who is the founding father of modern Jamaican music. "It's a good beat, but that's all there is to it. It's like the dancehall artists don't want to make changes in the tune. It's all one chord, because they have cut out the piano and everything else."

Paris Operas Bow to Their Pasts

By David Stevens
International Herald Tribune

PARIS—The Paris Opera and the Opera Comique, with an eye to history as well as repertory, have both come up with new productions of works that loom large in their own past, and in performances of musical disjunction.

At the Bastille, the Opera is staging its second production of Alban Berg's "Lulu," 19 years after the company mounted the world premiere of the completed version of a work that had previously always been given as the incomplete torso the composer left. Debussy's "Pelléas et Mélisande" belongs to the Comique, where it had its world premiere in 1902, but where it had not been seen in more than a quarter-century.

In the new staging of "Lulu," Willy Decker and his designer, Wolfgang Gussmann, sidestep Berg's ultra-specific scenic instructions without being unfaithful to the spirit. The basic set consists of a cream-colored curved wall perforated by several doors, while above it is a kind of dark grandstand peopled most of the time by a group of men in identical dark coats and fedoras, and where events only alluded to in the text are shown or mimed.

Thus, Lulu can be seen pretending to faint at the sight of Dr. Schoen and his fiancée before she storms into the theater dressing room and her confrontation with Dr. Schoen. Or Lulu can be seen street-walking and bringing back to her garret the men who figure in the final scene.



A scene from "Lulu" at the Paris Opera.

restrained Geschwitz. Wolfgang Schoene was the experienced Dr. Schoen. David Kuebler a lyrical Alwa. Carlos Feller a splendidly scruffy Schigolch, while Eirian James, Claude Pia, Gunter von Kannen and Robert Worle managed their multiple roles adroitly.

At the Salle Favart, the veteran Georges Pretre, with the Orchestre National in the pit, was in charge of a richly nuanced yet full-voiced reading of the Debussy score.

Pierre Medecin and his designer, Andreas Reinhardt, made full use of the stage in this highly personal take on the story. Golaud is omnipresent, seated at the front of the stage as if in his living room, drinking, reading, moping about the past and advancing years, occasionally getting up to join the action with characters who, after all, are only in his imagination.

Melisande has short hair, although the long tresses in the text are hinted at in the cascade of shooting stars in the background. The back wall of the stage suggests a castle, and its openings let in seascape and stary skies. The impression that water is everywhere is reinforced by a mechanism that permitted water to flow over the stage constantly.

Francois Le Roux, hitherto a Pelléas, sang his first Golaud with power and sensitivity, while William Dazeley and Anne-Marguerite Werster sang the title roles handsomely. Christian Treguer was a sonorous Arkel, and an unidentified boy soprano from the Bad Toelz choir was the touching Yniold.

BOOKS

NOSFERATU

By Jim Shepard. 215 pages.
\$22. Knopf.

Reviewed by
Dennis Drabelle

A FEW years ago the National Gallery of Art screened the restored "Nosferatu: A Symphony of Horrors," the German director F.W. Murnau's barely disguised version of Bram Stoker's novel "Dracula," with a live orchestra playing the reconstituted original score. What a spectacle! We tend to slight the moviegoing pleasure available to pre-talkie audiences: no voices, not much camera movement, primitive film stock, florid acting. But this "Nosferatu," shown as it would have been in almost any first-run house of its time (1922), was a sensory juggernaut: a hall filled with eerie music; plenty of

movement from the images captured by the camera, notably the shadows cast by Max Schreck as the stalking vampire with fingernails like bayonets; sumptuously tinted film, and a breathtaking trick—a scene presented in negative form, with all the values reversed. The acting was florid, but it hardly detracted from Murnau's Symphony of Effects.

As it happened, according to Jim Shepard in this brilliant fictional version of the director's life, Murnau was well aware that acting was the movie's weak link. Failing to get Conrad Veidt, the hollow-cheeked somnambulist from "The Cabinet of Dr. Caligari," for his leading man, Murnau had settled for a popular but wooden substitute, Vampire Schreck was a newcomer, but Murnau correctly intuited that his grotesque appearance would outweigh any

weakness in his performance. "Nosferatu" the novel is episodic and selective: Shepard makes little or no mention of Murnau's pre-"Nosferatu" films in Germany and leaves out his great American sentimental melodrama "Sunrise." But I note these omissions only for the record: They do not detract from the sense of a life fully explored. For the most part, the story is chronological, the main exception being the next-to-last section, when the author revisits a wrenching episode from Murnau's past: the death of his beloved, Hans Ehrenbaum-Degete, in World War I.

The two had met at college in Berlin, when Murnau was still known as Friedrich Wilhelm Plumpe. A stolid, unemotional boy, he grew up in a Westphalian town "so quiet that when Wilhelm looked out a window and finally did see a passerby, it was as if a tapestry had moved," and he was charmed by Hans's urbane manners and liberal parents (the mother was a Gentile opera singer, the father a Jewish banker). But there was more to Hans: an almost preternatural kindness. From the start of their affair, a boy named Spiess devoted himself to prying Wilhelm away from Hans.

The two friends leave college: Hans writes poetry, and Murnau joins the troupe of the innovative producer Max Reinhardt, where he contributes to a stage-shaking invention, an electronic console for orchestrating changes in lighting. One day, while Spiess, Hans and Murnau are together, Hans realizes that Spiess and Murnau have slept with each other. "If Murnau could have forgiven himself for everything else," Shepard writes, "he could not have forgiven his responsibility for that moment." When Hans is killed in battle, Murnau strings together a chain of causation that begins with his own unfaithfulness and hooks up with Hans's impetuous decision to volunteer for combat.

Whatever its effects on Murnau's emotional life, though, Hans's death seems to have done no artistic dam-

age. Having survived his own stint as a wartime flyer, Murnau returns to Berlin and gets caught up in cinema, taking up directing by default. Though making "Nosferatu" causes Murnau to reflect upon "an essentially trivial quality at the heart of film's fascination—a nervous, aggressive vulgarity," the movie is a critical and popular success. His next film, "The Last Laugh," stars Emil Jannings as an aging hotel doorman whose demotion to bathroom attendant deprives him of his pride: the ornate livery he got to wear. The pains he takes with the film, including putting to use cinematographer Karl Freund's invention of a camera whose movements can be steered by a built-in electronic gyroscope, pay off: "The Last Laugh" is an international hit, and Murnau moves to Hollywood.

A misfit in the studio system, he makes a few films and then strikes out for Polynesia, where, with backing from a new company and in partnership with the famous documentary filmmaker Robert Flaherty ("Nanook of the North"), he starts work on "Tabu," a poetic love story. The funding dries up, Flaherty leaves after a tiff, but Murnau draws on his savings and stays to finish up, smitten by the tropics and not least the beautiful boys who hang around the set. Still, he writes his mother that he is "never at home," anywhere.

The novel's penultimate section, a flashback that comes just before a brief narrative of his death in a 1931 car accident, shows him trying his damndest to bridge that distance in a fervent letter to Hans. Beggaring almost every stereotype about artists, homosexuals and Germans, Murnau is one of the most arresting characters in recent fiction, and Jim Shepard persuades us both that we know far more about him than any of his colleagues or lovers do, even Hans, and that there is still more about him to know.

Dennis Drabelle, a Washington author and editor, wrote this for The Washington Post.

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2 PANDORA'S BOX, by Anne Rice	2	8
3 PARADISE, by Toni Morrison	3	12
4 HOMECOMING, by Susan Roberson	4	12
5 COLD MOUNTAIN, by Charles Foster	5	2
6 MEMOIRS OF A GESHA, by Arthur Golden	6	21
7 BLOOD WORK, by Michael Connelly	7	4
8 TONIN, by Robin Cook	8	4
9 BLACK AND BLUE, by Anna Quindlen	9	4
10 AN INSTANCE OF THE FINGERPOST, by Ian McEwan	10	1
11 SUDDEN MISCHIEF, by Robert B. Parker	11	2
12 THE MARK OF THE ASSASSIN, by Daniel Silva	12	2
13 GUILTY PLEASURES, by Lawrence Sanders	13	5
14 THE SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION, by Gore Vidal	14	2
15 MIRACLE CURE, by Michael Palmer	15	2
NONFICTION		
1 TALKING TO HEAVEN, by James Van Praeger	1	14
2 SPIN CYCLE, by Howard Kurtz	2	3
3 ANGEL'S ASHES, by Frank McCourt	3	2
4 TUESDAY'S MORRIE, by Mitch Cullin	4	25
5 THE MILLIONAIRE NEXT DOOR, by Thomas H. Staney and William D. Darrin	5	64
6 MIDNIGHT IN THE GARDEN OF GOOD AND EVIL, by John Bernheimer	6	195
7 THE MAN WHO LISTENS TO HORSES, by Alvin Tarr	7	34
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10 THE PERFECT STORM, by Sebastian Junger	10	44
11 THE LONG HARD ROAD OUT OF HELL, by Martha Mason with Neil Stammers	11	7
12 TITANIC: Legacy of the World's Greatest Ocean Liner, by Susan Webb	12	10
13 JAMES CAMERON'S TITANIC, by James Cameron	13	10
14 LOVE & SURVIVAL, by David Shields	14	1
15 THE WEALTH OF NATIONS, by David S. Landes	15	1
ADVICE, HOW-TO AND MISCELLANEOUS		
1 THE 9 STEPS TO FINANCIAL FREEDOM, by Suze Korman	1	2
2 SIMPLE ABUNDANCE, by Sarah Ban Breathnach	2	105
3 EIGHT WAYS TO OPTIMUM HEALTH, by Bar 1 D'Adamo with Catherine Whitney	3	5
4 EAT RIGHT, YOUR TYPE, by Bar 1 D'Adamo with Catherine Whitney	4	5

STAGE/ENTERTAINMENT

Hollywood Embraces a Suddenly Ubiquitous Heather Graham

By Margy Rochlin
New York Times Service

LOS ANGELES — Although their rules forbid them to admit it, the people at the Motion Picture Association of America have been seeing a lot of the actress Heather Graham lately. Early last fall, members of this watchdog group saw her glide across the screen portraying the bewheeled pornography star Roller Girl in "Boogie Nights" was shown to them on 14 occasions before they gave it an R rating.

This was just the beginning of the MPAA's Heatherfest. Next on the bill was James Toback's "Two Girls and a Guy," which follows two understandably aggrieved women (played by Graham and Natasha Gregson Wagner) for 92 minutes as they grill a charmer (Robert Downey Jr.) who has been whispering pledges of faithful love to each of them. Although it won't be released until next week, this low-budget feature is

already notorious for one dimly lit eight-minute scene in which Graham and Downey engage in a sort of sexual encounter not often seen at your local cinema. The ratings board saw 14 versions of the scene before it withdrew its dreaded NC-17 label and granted an R. The association viewed "Lost in Space," which opened last weekend, only once before stamping it PG-13. In that action thriller, which is based on the hit television show of the 1960s about a family stranded in a foreign galaxy, Graham's character remains chaste. As the pensive eldest daughter, Judy Robinson, she spends most of the film clad in an orange wrist-to-ankle jumpsuit, perpetually rejecting the advances of the spacecraft's randy pilot (Matt LeBlanc).

Whether the association has officially reached a "Her again?" point with the 28-year-old Graham remains a mystery. When Joan Graves, a veteran MPAA member, was reached by telephone at the organization's San Fernando Valley headquarters, she laughed for a long time after being posed the question. "We provide consumer advice for parents," she finally managed to intone solemnly. "We don't have as many personal reactions as you think we do."

Graham has spent the last decade hovering in the background of more than two dozen films — many of them videotape shelf-fillers like "Shout." Just often enough to keep insanity at bay, she has been hired for more than her blond mermaid hair and wide blue eyes. Gus Van Sant had the foresight to do so back in 1989 with "Drugstore Cowboy," in which Graham played the eager-to-please Nadine so skillfully that audiences tended to grieve as much as the character's grifter friends did when she died of a drug overdose halfway through the picture.

Although she had a brief, memorable stint as a nun on the television drama "Twin Peaks," it took a good seven years for critics to take notice of her again, in the indie hit "Swingers," about a group of cocktail-swilling hipsters in search of Ms. Right. She herself has only recently begun to understand who deserved credit for her noted performances. "I used to think that to be good, I needed a good director to bring it out of me," said Graham, who is thoughtful and well read but, unlike many in her profession, not always trying to prove it. "For me, 'Boogie Nights' was a turning point. This time, I thought, I was in a good situation, but I did it. I know that as a person, I'm so much more confident now. Like, night and day from when I started off."

BORN in Virginia, she was brought up in a devout Roman Catholic household in the conservative Los Angeles suburb of Agoura. While the neighborhood's tract-house uniformity pleased her father, an FBI agent, now retired, and her mother, a writer of children's books, Graham felt interred in monotony. "There were no options," she said. "Everything, everyone, was the same. You go to the mall. If someone's parents were out of town, you'd go to their house and have a party. I mean, they filmed 'Poltergeist' in Agoura for a reason."

Only 45 minutes away, the entertainment capital of the world beckoned. Before she graduated from high school, she had signed with an agent and appeared in a television movie called "Student Exchange," which starred O.J. Simpson. ("Friendly and normal" is the way she recalled him. "But I only knew him slightly.") Soon after, she made her

feature-film debut in "License to Drive," a bit of teenage fluff packaged around two heartthrobs du jour, Corey Haim and Corey Feldman. "I remember thinking: 'Wow! They are such big stars,'" said Graham, whose portrayal of a social goddess was enhanced by the fact that at 5 feet 8 inches (1.72 meters), she towered over both of the actors.

With her first sizable paycheck in hand, she moved into an apartment in Los Angeles proper. These days, her family may or may not know that the movie business is conducting a spring romance with Graham, who will soon be seen with Kenneth Branagh in "Alien Love Triangle," with Steve Martin in "Boyz n the City," and in "Committed," written and directed by Lisa Krueger ("Manny and Lo").

"Some people have an easy relationship with their parents," said Graham, whose younger sister, Aimee, also an actress, had a bit part in Quentin Tarantino's "Jackie Brown." "But I don't feel like I do. Actually, I don't talk to them," she said. "I don't want to! My friends are my surrogate family." In this she is intriguingly like the affection-hungry character she played so well in "Boogie Nights."

Graham as the bewheeled porn star Roller Girl in "Boogie Nights"

The Finns Have a Word for It And the Word Over the Airwaves Is in Latin



The Finnish Broadcasting Company has a weekly news program in Latin and has recently expanded to the Web.

By Barry James
International Herald Tribune

HELSINKI — Tarmo Pekkanen has been writing and producing a weekly news digest for the Finnish Broadcasting Company since the fall of the Berlin wall, and he has never once been lost for a verbum — even though the broadcasts go out entirely in Latin.

Outside Vatican Radio, this is said to be the only regular broadcast in classical Latin, and it attracts a loyal following from all around the world. Pekkanen, a university professor, lives and breathes Latin, in which he says is a lot easier than his own language, Finnish. Certainly, he observes, more people around the world understand and speak it than Finnish.

And to show that Latin can do anything a modern language can do, Pekkanen writes the Latin lyrics for a jazz band called Reine Rimmon Eiusque Papae Fervidissimi, or Reine Rimmon and Her Hot Papas.

The band has recorded two CDs, one based on the odes of Horace and one on the poems of Catullus. A third record is

planned, based on Ovid's "Amores." The repertoire includes reworked versions of New Orleans classics such as "Cum sancti caelum ineunt" (When the Saints Go Marching In), "Veneres Placent" (Who's Sorry Now?) or "Amor, amor, qui me despiciat" (Careless Love).

The scripts of the Latin broadcasts, a survey of international and domestic events called Nuntii Latini or News in Latin, are published from time to time and serve as textbooks in high schools and universities.

Pekkanen says the broadcasts are grammatically pure, although he has no objections to coining a neologism or combining existing words if something modern has no exact Latin translation. Examples: "cohortes reactionis rapidae" (rapid-reaction forces), "missilia circumvagantia" (cruise missiles) or "documentum electronicum" for electronic text.

It helps, Pekkanen said, that much of the technical vocabulary is of Greek or Latin origin. Televisio for television would be comprehensible to an ancient Roman because tele is from Greek and visio is from Latin.

Latin has held a special place in Finland for centuries as a symbol of the nation's attachment to the West rather than to the Orthodox Russian-speaking world next door. It was the most important school subject until the middle of the 19th century, and for scholars living on a frozen boundary land it provided the means to pursue their studies in Central and Western Europe.

The University of Jyväskylä, where Pekkanen teaches, is one of the centers of Finland's strong classical tradition. Last year, it hosted the ninth International Latin Congress, proving that delegates from all over the world had no difficulty conversing in their lingua franca. Not surprisingly, Finnish television turned up to cover the congress — in Latin.

PEKKANEN is realistic enough to see that Latin will never replace English as the world's modern lingua franca. Nevertheless, he said, an estimated 15 million people speak or understand Latin in the European Union, which as a geographical entity almost covers the extent of the latinized medieval world.

Finland's education minister, Olli-Pekka Heinonen says Latin is an important means of retaining humanistic values in a world where "many people have become too much accustomed to evaluating all things in terms of their potential for financial profit."

For the Finnish Broadcasting Company, which serves a domestic audience of only five million, Latin has been a means of attracting listeners far beyond Finland's borders. It gets letters from about 50 countries asking for program schedules and more details, a spokeswoman said. It has expanded its reach by putting

the program on the World Wide Web, www.yle.fi, which is also a means of creating a community of Latin scholars and fans around the world. The show began as a light-hearted experiment, but quickly caught on. With several thousand listeners, its popularity rivals some programs in Swedish, the country's second language.

Pekkanen wonders why anyone would want to learn artificial languages like Esperanto, which he called boring and lacking culture, when Latin can unlock a vast realm of history and thought.

"We should reinforce its teaching in schools and universities," he said, "so that we have the possibility and the means to emphasize our common spiritual origins. It is not enough to have common economic interests and common policies. Something more is needed, by which I mean this cultural background."

Pekkanen said he selected the most important items each week for his news digest and never dismissed an item because he couldn't find a way of expressing it. "Of course, it takes time because the style must be faultless so that every sentence can be used as an example of Latin syntax," he said. It also has to be clear so that it carries well on short-wave broadcasts.

The programs are read by one of Pekkanen's colleagues, Reijo Pitkanen, by his wife and sometimes by his students. He said it is important to use a woman's voice to offset the idea that Latin is all about togas and gravitas.

Pekkanen has also written a great deal of Latin poetry, including a translation of all 22,795 verses of the national epic, the Kalevala. "I've been learning Latin since 1955," he said. "There must be something in it to keep my interest all these years."

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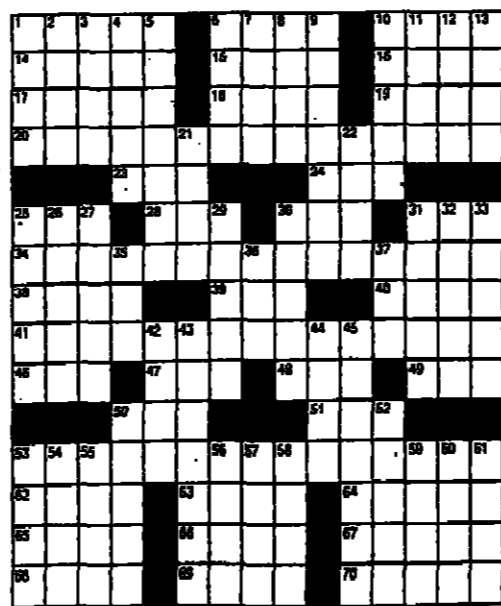
CROSSWORD

ACROSS

- 1 Excuse
- 6 Sweetie
- 10 Muslim judge
- 14 Italian opera center
- 15 How draft dodgers didn't want to be classified
- 16 Biblical preposition
- 17 Seconds, of a sort
- 18 Husband of Ruth
- 19 Makes (out)
- 20 Start of a quip
- 22 Table necessity

DOWN

- 3 Rule out
- 5 Chemical ending
- 22 King precursor
- 23 End of the quip
- 24 Show horse
- 25 A Ladd
- 26 1988 Olympics locale
- 27 Stage comment
- 28 Pertaining to bees
- 29 Battery terminal
- 30 Shower provider?
- 31 Warning fire
- 32 Rabies
- 33 Hall of "The Tonight Show"
- 34 Possess
- 37 Kind of chart
- 40 Bay of Indiana
- 41 Requre
- 44 — ben
- 45 Jewish festival: Var.
- 46 10-foot tower
- 48 Bond in a way
- 49 Unit
- 54 Canal with a "low bridge" ("everybody down")
- 55 Armor-busting weapon
- 56 Folk star Redbone
- 57 Thanksgiving dish



Puzzles by Michael S. Maslin

© New York Times/Edited by Will Shortz

Solution to Puzzle of April 14

EAST MAKES ASAP
NEAR ELITE MYNA
INFO ALBUT OMAN
GREENADAVISUP
MAT LEN PROBE
ASYET CELL SUM
EAGERLY AIRS
PERRYMANJAR
FOXY RUMANIA
ASH MOSS EXULT
BEIGE SEC SOI
BILLY ROSE BOWL
HAIG IVANS OPID
ALTO SEPILA NENE
GIST ASBAV ANDS

1 Bit of Latin conjugation
2 Peru's capital
3 Holly
4 Yawn-inducing
5 As a substitute
6 Western wolf
7 Like most graffiti: Abbr.
8 A good one should be square
9 Marketplaces
10 Mission
11 "My Way" writer
12 Brain passage
13 Medicinal unit

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Customers Fret Over Bank Deal

By Beth Berselli
and Stephanie Stoughton
Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON — NationsBank Corp. and BankAmerica Corp. executives have lauded the added customer convenience that could come from the banks' merger, but customers fear that such deals could result in more fees and bureaucracy and less service.

"These huge corporations, they've lost sight of certain things," such as providing customer service, said Tom Wildenberg, a writer from Silver Spring, Maryland, who stopped by a NationsBank branch after the merger was announced Monday. "They no longer have to fight for customers, and you're left with no choices and higher fees."

Analysts said some recent mergers had shown that bigger was not necessarily better when it came to the accounts of individual customers. While creating a coast-to-coast banking giant should result in added convenience for some customers — easier access to automated teller machines, for instance — for others it could mean higher fees.

Ed Mierzwinski of the U.S. Public Interest Research Group, which conducts annual surveys on bank fees, said, "NationsBank has a history of coming into a market, taking over and imposing their own fee structure, which generally means higher fees, more fees and higher balances required to avoid fees."

Arnold Danielson, a banking consultant in Rockville, Maryland, said bigger banks did tend to charge higher fees but also paid higher interest rates on deposits and offered lower-cost loans. He said NationsBank customers should prepare for different fees to be charged, although not necessarily higher fees.

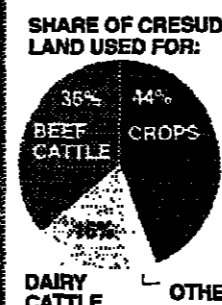
Tokyo to Banks Get Ready

Prime Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto urged Japanese banks Tuesday to speed write-offs of bad debt to face the intense global competition resulting from U.S. bank mergers, Agence France-Presse reported from Tokyo.

Meanwhile, banking stocks surged in Europe on speculation that the trend toward consolidation would soon reach the Continent. Bloomberg News reported from London.

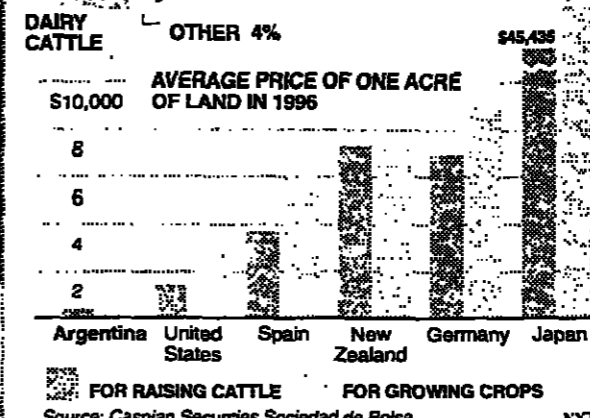


Alejandro Elstain giving investment analysts a horseback tour of a farm belonging to his company, Cresud, Argentina's largest landowner.



Land Lords

The two brothers who own Cresud, an Argentine farm company, use most of their land for raising crops and cattle for export. Their business has been successful in part because the cost of land is much lower in Argentina than in other parts of the world.



Source: Caspian Securities Sociedad de Bolsa

A Bet on Argentina's Future as the World's Breadbasket

Driven by a Vision of an Agribusiness Powerhouse, Two Brothers Hope to Cash In on Globalization

By Clifford Krauss
New York Times Service

Buenos Aires — Moments after taking off from an airport, Alejandro Elstain peered out at the patchwork of farms spreading over the Argentine horizon.

"At the beginning of the century, the land is what Argentina was known for," Mr. Elstain told a group of investment fund analysts looking over farms managed by him. "And in the future, Argentina will once again be known for its agriculture. We are just beginning."

When Mr. Elstain speaks of "we," he is referring not just to Argentina but also to himself and his older brother, Eduardo, whose fortunes are increasingly intertwined with the fortunes of their nation.

With a vision of Argentina awakening from six decades of economic slumber to become a dominant agribusiness

power in the next 15 years, the two brothers are quietly building Latin America's newest real-estate empire before either has reached the age of 40. Though their gamble that Argentina will become the next big breadbasket in

INTERNATIONAL MANAGER

an increasingly integrated global economy is only beginning to pay off, they have already emerged from obscurity.

Since Eduardo talked his way into George Soros' office in New York eight years ago and came away with a \$10 million check, they have become darlings of Wall Street's emerging-market group, and Argentina's free-enterprise revolutionaries intent on smashing the nation's quaint tradition of inefficient and underfunded family farms and ranches.

The history of Latin America is full of wealthy *hacendados* and *rancheros*, powerful figures who pulled the strings

from behind the scenes; the Elstains are not like that. They are outsiders, third-generation Jews from Eastern and Central Europe in a thoroughly Roman Catholic country, their vision nourished by a mystical Orthodox faith.

With an audacity that has stunned many in the Argentine business community, the Elstains doubled their rural land holdings to 1.1 million acres (440,000 hectares) in the past year — a vault that suddenly made Cresud, their farm company, into Argentina's largest landowner and biggest producer of beef and grain.

Meanwhile, their real-estate company, IRSA, headed by Eduardo Elstain, is remaking the skyline of Buenos Aires and pushing the city's development south and east.

"There is a tremendous amount of capital going into the developing world," Eduardo said. "That pool of money is translated into increases in

salaries. People who have a jump in salary first begin to eat a little better. That creates a demand for food, and that's where Argentina will grow."

Cresud is bringing about big changes in Argentine ranching and agriculture with biotechnology, extensive irrigation of marginal land and one particular innovation that horrifies most gauchos and Argentine beef-eaters who shun fatty meat. Cresud recently entered into a joint venture with the Texas-based Cactus Feeders to begin fattening 100,000 head of cattle a year with corn rather than traditional Argentine grass to increase yields and produce cuts of beef that are marbled with more fat to appeal to American and Asian tastes.

Believing that the Argentine middle and upper classes can only expand and grow richer, the Elstains' real-estate arm is buying up shopping centers, office

See LAND, Page 17

Wall Street Cheers New Price Data

Dow Vaults Over 9,100 As Inflation Stays Tame

WASHINGTON — Inflation disappeared from the U.S. economy for the second time in three months in March, with a continued steep drop in energy costs offsetting scattered price increases in other areas. The data spurred strong gains in both the stock and bond markets Tuesday.

The consumer price index was unchanged last month after inching just 0.1 percent higher in February and holding steady in January, the Labor Department said. This means that inflation, which sank to an 11-year low of 1.7 percent in 1997, ran at a barely detectable 0.2 percent annual rate in the first quarter of 1998.

Meanwhile, retail sales unexpectedly declined 0.1 percent in March, pulled down by drops in the sale of autos, building materials and furniture, the Commerce Department said.

"Businesses can't raise prices — and in some cases they're cutting them," said Mark Vitner, an economist at First Union Corp. in Charlotte, North Carolina. That cuts into the value of retail sales even though the volume of goods going out the door is rising by about 3 percent, he said.

The reports were a winning combination for bonds as well as stocks. The Dow Jones industrial average surged 97.90 points to a record 9,110.20, while the benchmark 30-year Treasury bond closed up 12 3/32 in price at 103 4/32, pushing down its yield to 5.90 percent from 5.93 percent.

The consumer price index, the government's key barometer of consumer costs, was held in check last month by the fourth straight drop in energy prices, Labor Department figures showed.

The 1.4 percent rise in the index in the past 12 months is the second-smallest increase in 33 years, bested only by a decline in prices in 1986 after oil prices collapsed.

The March drop of retail sales by 0.1 percent followed a gain of 0.7 percent in February, Commerce Department figures showed.

See STOCKS, Page 17

Crucial Months Ahead for Malaysia

Economists Say Actions Now May Decide How It Fares in Asian Crisis

By Thomas Fuller
International Herald Tribune

KUALA LUMPUR — Thanks to neat checklists prepared by the International Monetary Fund, investors in recent months have judged the health of East Asia's most troubled economies like a stock boy with a clipboard, ticking off the IMF's point-by-point reforms as they happen.

This hasn't been so with Malaysia, however, which has suffered currency slides and stock-market plunges similar to those of its neighbors but has not needed IMF assistance.

"No stick, no carrot and no guidelines against which we can measure our performance," said Dominique Armstrong, head of research at Pessaka Jardine Fleming Sdn.

Malaysia has avoided bringing in the IMF, analysts say, because its banking system was better supervised and, more important, the country did not borrow as much from abroad, compared with its neighbors. While crippling levels of foreign debt in countries such as Indonesia, South Korea and Thailand forced problems in those countries out into the open, Malaysia has avoided high-profile corporate bankruptcies or major bank failures since the regional economic crisis started last year.

But the country nonetheless shares almost all of its neighbors' problems, including an overheated property sec-

tor, increasing levels of bad loans and rising inflation rates. Banks will need about \$5 billion over the next two years to cover loan defaults, which will reach 20 percent of total loans, according to an estimate by Neil Saker of SocGen Crosby Securities Pte. Ltd.

Economists view the government's management over the next few months as critical — particularly whether it bails out companies or allows them to fold.

Malaysia's central bank has tried to head off the problem of bad loans by nudging the country's smaller banks and finance companies to merge with larger ones. It is calculating that a consolidated financial-services industry will be easier to supervise and that the newly merged companies will be more resilient in the face of a bad-loan crunch.

Under government pressure, the country's 39 finance companies recently announced mergers that would reduce their number to eight. The details are not known yet, and analysts said the way the deals were structured would show whether or not some of them were bailouts.

Publicly, the Malaysian government has been emphatic about its policy on aid: "We are not here to protect or bail out," Finance Minister Anwar Ibrahim said in December, a theme he has repeated several times since.

But in practice, several recent deals, including the takeover of Sime Bank

Bhd., have been interpreted by analysts and the markets as bailouts.

After Sime Bank announced several weeks ago that it lost 1.8 billion ringgit (\$514 million) last year and needed 1.2 billion ringgit in fresh capital, the government encouraged one of the country's largest financial groups, Rashid Hussain Bhd., to buy Sime and merge it with its own, healthier bank.

If the IMF had come in, it would have made sure that people who were responsible for the crisis would pay the price, said Mohamed Ariff, executive director of the Malaysian Institute of Economic Research.

"They would have made sure there was some blood on the floor," he said. "But now, it looks as though it's not happening."

One of the areas the IMF might have addressed is the close relationship between the government and certain companies.

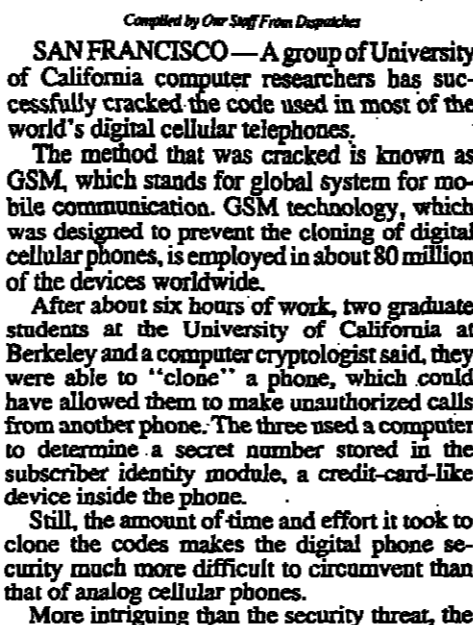
"Malaysia is a very personalized economy, very hands-on by the leading politicians," Mr. Armstrong said. "You've got a number of individuals with very serious debt problems operating businesses that should probably no longer be there."

As for the merger program, many analysts say it will not be enough to keep the Malaysian banking system healthy and that Malaysia, too, will need foreign funds — not from the IMF, because the banks' creditors are domestic, but from foreign companies.

CURRENCY & INTEREST RATES

April 14									
Cross Rates	Unit	Rate	Unit	Rate	Unit	Rate	Unit	Rate	Unit
Amsterdam	\$	2.02	DM	1.36	DM	1.36	DM	1.36	DM
Brussels	\$	2.27	DM	1.36	DM	1.36	DM	1.36	DM
Frankfurt	\$	1.00	DM	1.36	DM	1.36	DM	1.36	DM
London (d)	\$	1.54	DM	1.36	DM	1.36	DM	1.36	DM
Madrid	\$	1.74	DM	1.36	DM	1.36	DM	1.36	DM
Milan	\$	1.74	DM	1.36	DM	1.36	DM	1.36	DM
New York (d)	\$	1.00	DM	1.36	DM	1.36	DM	1.36	DM
Paris	\$	1.00	DM	1.36	DM	1.36	DM	1.36	DM
Tokyo	\$	1.00	DM	1.36	DM	1.36	DM	1.36	DM
Toronto	\$	1.00	DM	1.36	DM	1.36	DM	1.36	DM
Zurich	\$	1.00	DM	1.36	DM	1.36	DM	1.36	DM
1 EUR	\$	1.00	DM	1.36	DM	1.36	DM	1.36	DM
1 SDR	\$	1.00	DM	1.36	DM	1.36	DM	1.36	DM
Closings in Amsterdam, London, Milan, Paris and Zurich. Rates in other centers: New York at 4 P.M. and Toronto rates at 3 P.M. Units of 100 N.Q. not quoted. N.A. not available.									
To buy one point in 10 to buy one dollar. Units of 100 N.Q. not quoted. N.A. not available.									
Other Dollar Values									
Currency	Per \$	Value	Currency	Per \$	Value	Currency	Per \$	Value	Currency
Argentine peso	0.0099	31.75	Argentine peso	0.0099	31.75	Argentine peso	0.0099	31.75	Argentine peso
Australian \$	1.5432	7.7490	Australian \$	1.5432	7.7490	Australian \$	1.5432	7.7490	Australian \$
Brazil real	1.2793	21.85	Brazil real	1.2793	21.85	Brazil real	1.2793	21.85	Brazil real
Chinese yuan	0.2793	36.55	Chinese yuan	0.2793	36.55	Chinese yuan	0.2793	36.55	Chinese yuan
Canadian dollar	0.7225	70.00	Canadian dollar	0.7225	70.00	Canadian dollar	0.7225	70.00	Canadian dollar
Deutsche mark	1.3600	0.7225	Deutsche mark	1.3600	0.7225	Deutsche mark	1.3600	0.7225	Deutsche mark
Egypt pound	2.3927	0.4254	Egypt pound	2.3927	0.4254	Egypt pound	2.3927	0.4254	Egypt pound
Malay. ring.	3.715	0.2675	Malay. ring.	3.715	0.2675	Malay. ring.	3.715	0.2675	Malay. ring.
Forward Rates									
Currency	30-day	60-day	90-day	Currency	30-day	60-day	90-day	Currency	30-day
Japanese yen	1.6750	1.6726	1.6678	Japanese yen	1.6750	1.6726	1.6678	Japanese yen	1.6750
Swiss franc	1.4343	1.4333	1.4324	Swiss franc	1.4343	1.4333	1.4324	Swiss franc	1.4343
Deutsche mark	1.8118	1.8088	1.8059	Deutsche mark	1.8118	1.8088	1.8059	Deutsche mark	1.8118
Sources: ING Bank (Amsterdam); Citicorp Investment Bank (Buenos Aires); Banca Commerciale Italiana (Milan); Banque de France (Paris); Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi (Tokyo); Royal Bank of Canada (Toronto); IMF (SDR). Other data from the Associated Press, Bloomberg and Reuters.									
Libor-Libor Rates									
Unit	Rate	Unit	Rate	Unit	Rate	Unit	Rate	Unit	Rate
1-month 5% - 5%	5.00	1-month 5% - 5%	5.00	1-month 5% - 5%	5.00	1-month 5% - 5%	5.00	1-month 5% - 5%	5.00
3-month 5% - 5%	5.00	3-month 5% - 5%	5.00	3-month 5% - 5%	5.00	3-month 5% - 5%	5.00	3-month 5% - 5%	5.00
6-month 5% - 5%	5.00	6-month 5% - 5%	5.00	6-month 5% - 5%	5.00	6-month 5% - 5%	5.00	6-month 5% - 5%	5.00
1-year 5% - 5%	5.00	1-year 5% - 5%	5.00	1-year 5% - 5%	5.00	1-year 5% - 5%	5.00	1-year 5% - 5%	5.00
2-year 5% - 5%	5.00	2-year 5% - 5%	5.00	2-year 5% - 5%	5.00	2-year 5% - 5%	5.00	2-year 5% - 5%	5.00
3-year 5% - 5%	5.00	3-year 5% - 5%	5.00	3-year 5% - 5%	5.00	3-year 5% - 5%	5.00	3-year 5% - 5%	5.00
4-year 5% - 5%	5.00	4-year 5% - 5%	5.00	4-year 5% - 5%	5.00	4-year 5% - 5%	5.00	4-year 5% - 5%	5.00
5-year 5% - 5%	5.00	5-year 5% - 5%	5.00	5-year 5% - 5%	5.00	5-year 5% - 5%	5.00	5-year 5% - 5%	5.00
10-year 5% - 5%	5.00	10-year 5% - 5%	5.00	10-year 5% - 5%	5.00	10-year 5% - 5%	5.00	10-year 5% - 5%	5.00
Key Money Rates									
Unit	Rate	Unit	Rate	Unit	Rate	Unit	Rate	Unit	Rate
1-month T-bill	4.99	1-month T-bill	4.99	1-month T-bill	4.99	1-month T-bill	4.99	1-month T-bill	4.99
3-month T-bill	5.11	3-month T-bill	5.11	3-month T-bill	5.11	3-month T-bill	5.11	3-month T-bill	5.11
6-month T-bill	5.27	6-month T-bill	5.27	6-month T-bill	5.27	6-month T-bill	5.27	6-month T-bill	5.27
1-year T-bill	5.55	1-year T-bill	5.55	1-year T-bill	5.55	1-year T-bill	5.55	1-year T-bill	5.55
2-year T-bill	5.55	2-year T-bill	5.55	2-year T-bill	5.55	2-year T-bill	5.55	2-year T-bill	5.55
3-year T-bill	5.55	3-year T-bill	5.55	3-year T-bill	5.55	3-year T-bill	5.55	3-year T-bill	5.55
4-year T-bill	5.55	4-year T-bill	5.55	4-year T-bill	5.55	4-year T-bill	5.55	4-year T-bill	5.55
5-year T-bill	5.55	5-year T-bill	5.55	5-year T-bill	5.55	5-year T-bill	5.55	5-year T-bill	5.55
10-year T-bill	5.55	10-year T-bill	5.55	10-year T-bill	5.55	10-year T-bill	5.55	10-year T-bill	5.55
15-year T-bill	5.55	15-year T-bill	5.55	15-year T-bill	5.55	15-year T-bill	5.55	15-year T-bill	5.55
20-year T-bill	5.55	20-year T-bill	5.55	20-year T-bill	5.55	20-year T-bill	5.55	20-year T-bill	5.55
30-year T-bill	5.55	30-year T-bill	5.55	30-year T-bill	5.55	30-year T-bill	5.55	30-year T-bill	5.55
United States									
Unit	Rate	Unit	Rate	Unit	Rate	Unit	Rate	Unit	Rate
1-month T-bill	4.99	1-month T-bill	4.99	1-month T-bill	4.99	1-month T-bill	4.99	1-month T-bill	4.99
3-month T-bill	5.11	3-month T-bill	5.11	3-month T-bill	5.11	3-month T-bill	5.11	3-month T-bill	5.11
6-month T-bill	5.27	6-month T-bill	5.27	6-month T-bill	5.27	6-month T-bill	5.27	6-month T-bill	5.27
1-year T-bill	5.55	1-year T-bill	5.55	1-year T-bill	5.55	1-year T-bill	5.55	1-year T-bill	5.55
2-year T-bill	5.55	2-year T-bill	5.55	2-year T-bill	5.55	2-year T-bill	5.55	2-year T-bill	5.55
3-year T-bill	5.55	3-year T-bill	5.55	3-year T-bill	5.55	3-year T-bill	5.55	3-year T-bill	5.55
4-year T-bill	5.55	4-year T-bill	5.55	4-year T-bill	5.55	4-year T-bill	5.55	4-year T-bill	5.55
5-year T-bill	5.55	5-year T-bill	5.55	5-year T-bill	5.55	5-year T-bill	5.55	5-year T-bill	5.55
10-year T-bill	5.55	10-year T-bill	5.55	10-year T-bill	5.55	10-year T-bill	5.55	10-year T-bill	5.55
Europe									
Unit	Rate	Unit	Rate	Unit	Rate	Unit	Rate	Unit	Rate
1-month T-bill	4.99	1-month T-bill	4.99	1-month T-bill	4.99	1-month T-bill	4.99		

Students Crack Cell-Phone Security Code



programmers said, was that cracking the code had yielded a tantalizing hint that a digital key used by GSM may have been intentionally weakened during the design process to permit government agencies to eavesdrop on cellphone conversations.

Although the key, known as A5, is a 64-bit encryption system — generally an extremely difficult code to crack — the researchers determined that the last 10 digits were actually zeros. That means that with the powerful computers available to national intelligence agencies, it would be possible to decode a voice conversation relatively quickly, said Marc Briceo, director of the Smartcard Developers Association, a programmers' organization.

"It appears the key was intentionally weakened," said Mr. Briceo, who worked with the two students in cracking the code. "I can't think of any other reason for what they did."

The computer industry has been rife with rumors about encryption designers having been persuaded or forced by government spy agencies to weaken communications security systems or to install secret backdoors. Some of the

rumors have had the National Security Agency or Central Intelligence Agency posing as cryptographers, designing the programs themselves and then releasing them—all to ensure that they could decode data or phone conversations.

Such rumors are fed, in part, by the hazy origins of the GSM system. Cryptographic specialists said the underlying mathematical formulas, or algorithms, in the encryption design were thought to have originated in either Germany or France as part of the creation of the standard in 1986 and 1987. But other than the hint Monday of an intentionally weakened system, little evidence has ever emerged to support speculation, and the researchers' suspicions were not universally endorsed.

"It's possible there are other reasons for doing this," said Stewart Baker, a Washington lawyer who formerly worked for the National Security Agency. The NSA is one of the agencies most often suspected of such schemes because a major part of its mission is to intercept telephone calls.

"Speculation is easy, and it never dies," Mr. Baker said. (NYT, AP)

STOCKS: Tame U.S. Inflation Data Spur Strong Gains for Shares and Bonds

Continued from Page 13

ures showed. For the first quarter, sales rose 1.8 percent, up from a 0.1 percent rise in last year's final quarter.

Low unemployment and rising incomes suggest people have money to spend, so the tame reading in March could be nothing more than a "natural pause" for the economy.

In other reports, the Atlanta Federal Reserve Bank said its monthly business-conditions index rose to 26.1 last month from 15.2 in Feb-

Harvard Prof

By Sylvia Nasar
New York Times Service

NEW YORK — In a stunning about-face, Robert Barro, the Har-

The deal involved a pay pack-

It is not clear what motivated Mr. Barro, 53, to back out weeks after he had, in a very public fashion, accepted Columbia's offer and had

Harvard Professor Decides to Stay After All

informed Harvard University of his decision to resign. But according to

"My sense is that it was emotionally a big problem to make this move," said Elhanan Helpman, referring to Mr. Deman's initial de-

Mr. Barro did not immediately

The mood at Harvard, which had not suffered a successful raid at a

tail sales in March reinforced expectations for steady growth and subdued inflation.

"It's an opportunity to buy bonds; there is no inflation," said Alan Koeplin, a funds manager at Cowen Asset Management.

The Federal Reserve Board sold about \$12 billion in Treasury bills

for an undisclosed customer Monday. Traders speculate that the seller was the Bank of Japan, which last week sold dollars to try to lift the

INTERNATIONAL FUTURES

Indexes						Most Actives						Apr 11					
Dow Jones						NYSE						High					
Index	High	Low	Last	Chg.	Prev.	Vol.	High	Low	Last	Chg.	Vol.	High	Low	Last	Chg.	Vol.	High
Dow Jones	9445.45	9121.41	9121.30	-912.00	-912.00	177229	2691	2629	2629	+11%	177229	2691	2629	2629	+11%	177229	2691
Industrial	3645.29	3615.29	3615.29	-30.00	-30.00	177229	2691	2629	2629	+11%	177229	2691	2629	2629	+11%	177229	2691
Transportation	265.45	265.45	265.45	-2.00	-2.00	177229	2691	2629	2629	+11%	177229	2691	2629	2629	+11%	177229	2691
Utilities	265.45	265.45	265.45	-2.00	-2.00	177229	2691	2629	2629	+11%	177229	2691	2629	2629	+11%	177229	2691
Standard & Poors	5000	4975.00	4975.00	-25.00	-25.00	177229	2691	2629	2629	+11%	177229	2691	2629	2629	+11%	177229	2691
NASDAQ						NASDAQ						NASDAQ					
Index	High	Low	Last	Chg.	Prev.	Vol.	High	Low	Last	Chg.	Vol.	High	Low	Last	Chg.	Vol.	High
NASDAQ	1262.90	1262.90	1262.90	-12.00	-12.00	1262.90	1262.90	1262.90	1262.90	-12.00	1262.90	1262.90	1262.90	1262.90	-12.00	1262.90	1262.90
Technology	723.00	723.00	723.00	-7.00	-7.00	723.00	723.00	723.00	723.00	-7.00	723.00	723.00	723.00	723.00	-7.00	723.00	723.00
Biotech	242.97	242.97	242.97	-4.00	-4.00	242.97	242.97	242.97	242.97	-4.00	242.97	242.97	242.97	242.97	-4.00	242.97	242.97
Finance	260.75	260.75	260.75	-1.00	-1.00	260.75	260.75	260.75	260.75	-1.00	260.75	260.75	260.75	260.75	-1.00	260.75	260.75
Healthcare	1117.51	1117.51	1117.51	-11.75	-11.75	1117.51	1117.51	1117.51	1117.51	-11.75	1117.51	1117.51	1117.51	1117.51	-11.75	1117.51	1117.51
NYSE	534.43	534.43	534.43	-5.43	-5.43	534.43	534.43	534.43	534.43	-5.43	534.43	534.43	534.43	534.43	-5.43	534.43	534.43
NYSE						NYSE						NYSE					
Index	High	Low	Last	Chg.	Prev.	Vol.	High	Low	Last	Chg.	Vol.	High	Low	Last	Chg.	Vol.	High
NYSE	534.43	534.43	534.43	-5.43	-5.43	534.43	534.43	534.43	534.43	-5.43	534.43	534.43	534.43	534.43	-5.43	534.43	534.43
Technology	242.97	242.97	242.97	-4.00	-4.00	242.97	242.97	242.97	242.97	-4.00	242.97	242.97	242.97	242.97	-4.00	242.97	242.97
Biotech	260.75	260.75	260.75	-1.00	-1.00	260.75	260.75	260.75	260.75	-1.00	260.75	260.75	260.75	260.75	-1.00	260.75	260.75
Finance	1117.51	1117.51	1117.51	-11.75	-11.75	1117.51	1117.51	1117.51	1117.51	-11.75	1117.51	1117.51	1117.51	1117.51	-11.75	1117.51	1117.51
Healthcare	534.43	534.43	534.43	-5.43	-5.43	534.43	534.43	534.43	534.43	-5.43	534.43	534.43	534.43	534.43	-5.43	534	

Low Latest Chge Opt				High Low Latest Chge Opt				High Low Latest Chge Opt												
GRAINS																				
WHEAT																				
No. bushels per bushel																				
May 96	14.00	14.00	0.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	0.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	0.00	14.00								
Jun 96	14.00	14.00	0.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	0.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	0.00	14.00								
Jul 96	14.00	14.00	0.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	0.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	0.00	14.00								
Aug 96	14.00	14.00	0.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	0.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	0.00	14.00								
Sep 96	14.00	14.00	0.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	0.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	0.00	14.00								
Oct 96	14.00	14.00	0.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	0.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	0.00	14.00								
Nov 96	14.00	14.00	0.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	0.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	0.00	14.00								
Dec 96	14.00	14.00	0.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	0.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	0.00	14.00								
Jan 97	14.00	14.00	0.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	0.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	0.00	14.00								
Feb 97	14.00	14.00	0.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	0.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	0.00	14.00								
Mar 97	14.00	14.00	0.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	0.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	0.00	14.00								
Apr 97	14.00	14.00	0.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	0.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	0.00	14.00								
May 97	14.00	14.00	0.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	0.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	0.00	14.00								
Jun 97	14.00	14.00	0.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	0.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	0.00	14.00								
Jul 97	14.00	14.00	0.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	0.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	0.00	14.00								
Aug 97	14.00	14.00	0.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	0.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	0.00	14.00								
Sep 97	14.00	14.00	0.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	0.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	0.00	14.00								
Oct 97	14.00	14.00	0.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	0.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	0.00	14.00								
Nov 97	14.00	14.00	0.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	0.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	0.00	14.00								
Dec 97	14.00	14.00	0.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	0.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	0.00	14.00								
Jan 98	14.00	14.00	0.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	0.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	0.00	14.00								
Feb 98	14.00	14.00	0.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	0.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	0.00	14.00								
Mar 98	14.00	14.00	0.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	0.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	0.00	14.00								
Apr 98	14.00	14.00	0.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	0.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	0.00	14.00								
May 98	14.00	14.00	0.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	0.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	0.00	14.00								
Jun 98	14.00	14.00	0.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	0.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	0.00	14.00								
Jul 98	14.00	14.00	0.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	0.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	0.00	1								

Market	Open	High	Low	Close	Change
Bombay	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.00
Calcutta	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.00
Rangoon	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.00
Singapore	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.00
London	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.00
Paris	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.00
Amsterdam	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.00
Brussels	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.00
Frankfurt	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.00
Berlin	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.00
Stockholm	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.00
Copenhagen	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.00
Helsinki	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.00
Oslo	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.00
Stockholm	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.00
Copenhagen	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.00
Helsinki	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.00
Oslo	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.00
Stockholm	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.00
Copenhagen	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.00
Helsinki	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.00
Oslo	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.00
Stockholm	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.00
Copenhagen	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.00
Helsinki	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.00
Oslo	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.00
Stockholm	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.00
Copenhagen	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.00
Helsinki	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.00
Oslo	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.00
Stockholm	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.00
Copenhagen	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.00
Helsinki	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.00
Oslo	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.00
Stockholm	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.00
Copenhagen	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.00
Helsinki	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.00
Oslo	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.00
Stockholm	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.00
Copenhagen	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.00
Helsinki	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.00
Oslo	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.00
Stockholm	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.00
Copenhagen	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.00
Helsinki	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.00
Oslo	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.00
Stockholm	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.00
Copenhagen	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.00
Helsinki	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.00
Oslo	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.00
Stockholm	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.00
Copenhagen	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.00
Helsinki	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.00
Oslo	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.00
Stockholm	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.00
Copenhagen	100.00	100.00	100		

صبرنا من الازل

The 2,600 most traded stocks of the day.
Nationwide prices not reflecting late trades elsewhere.
The Associated Press.

[illegible]

11, rue de la Corraterie - 1204 Geneva - Switzerland

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ASIA/PACIFIC



Mr. Wolfensohn says bank was not slow to respond to crisis.

World Bank Rebuts Critics of Its Role in Asia

As top finance officials from around the world gather in Washington to discuss the lessons of Asia's economic crisis at the International Monetary Fund/World Bank annual spring meetings, there is much talk of economics and less about the effect of the crisis on people in the region.

James Wolfensohn, president of the World Bank, stressed the social impact of the crisis with Alan Friedman of the International Herald Tribune.

Q. There has been a fair amount of criticism about the World Bank having been slow off the mark in the Asian crisis.

A. I don't think it is correct to say we were slow. We started to work on things that are less important for headline writers, things like the social impact of the crisis, like em-

Q & A / James Wolfensohn

ployment, poverty and food. But we equally went in on the restructuring of banking systems.

We had 100 people in our financial-services department when the crisis hit, and I secured extra funding, some \$25 million worth, and we wrote to central banks seeing if they could spare people to work for us for two to three years. So far, we have hired 14 new people, we have 80 offers out, and we will get 40 or 50 more people in all. We are building up that group so we can work on bank restructuring, supervision, capital markets and related issues.

Q. Another criticism has been that the IMF and World Bank have

not coordinated enough, that the IMF, which is supposed to concentrate on macroeconomic policies, instead learned as it went along that it faced structural problems of bank supervision and reforms that are really in your mandate. The word in Washington is that the IMF and the World Bank have not been on the best of terms.

A. I think it is the proper duty of the Fund to deal with macroeconomic problems and putting out fires, and we should work on structural measures. There were some initial difficulties between our organizations that were caused by pressures at the time. At the beginning there were

some incoherent remarks made, but that was long ago.

Q. But in the case of Indonesia, the biggest problems have turned out to be private-sector corporate debt and banking reforms, more World Bank than IMF material.

A. Indonesia is a Fund rescue package, but our work has gone into it. Our job is less visible, less front-line. We are not a crisis institution; we work on what happens over the next two to three years. That's what we do. We work on issues, as I said, that don't get headlines, like the social impact of the crisis.

Q. Tell me about your social impact work in the most hard-hit crisis countries of Indonesia, Thailand and South Korea.

A. In these countries we are working on issues such as unemployment, health care, social safety nets, the plight of migrant workers. These are crucial to the stability of these countries. Actually, the record on reducing poverty in Indonesia has been excellent over the past 25 years. They have reduced from 60 percent to 11 percent of the population the number of people living on a dollar a day. But we are finding quite a lot of people living on just two or three dollars a day; and the effect of the crisis, according to our projections, will be to push poverty back up from 11 percent to about 20 percent of the Indonesian population. That's a swing of 20 million people.

Q. What kind of social problems are you working on?

A. Let me give you an example. We have done a social assessment in Thailand, and we discovered many people returning from urban centers to the rural countryside.

So what happens? They lose their jobs in the city, go back to the countryside, but they still have no work and no money. So they might take things, and that creates social tension, and then you have families who keep their kids at home to protect the house, and that keeps them from getting an education in school. Or you have families who are now so desperate that they sell their kids into prostitution or they send their kids out as prostitutes.

You know, confidence appears to be returning to the financial markets, and the crisis may be over, but the resolution is far from over. You can't transform a social system in five minutes.

Q. What is the World Bank spending on these programs in the crisis countries?

A. In Korea, we have disbursed a total of \$5 billion for a range of activities, covering economic reconstruction, bank restructuring, improvements of corporate governance but also a significant portion for emergency policy programs in the social area, for providing social safety nets, for education, health and in dealing with the effects of unemployment.

In Indonesia, we have committed \$4.5 billion over the next three years, of which \$1 billion is devoted to working on improving social safety nets and \$275 million on rural income and job improvement. In Thailand, we have \$1.5 billion of funds committed, and we are using \$300 million for direct social intervention.

Q. How long will your work on the aftermath of the crisis go on?

A. There will be three years of hard work, and the battle will only be won three years from now. It may not make headlines, but that is what it takes to implement these programs.

IMF: Japan Comes Under Pressure to Take Additional Action to Avoid Recession

Continued from Page 1

tax system, Mr. Rubin said. "The key question is not the level of the taxes but the macroeconomic stimulus."

He added that "we are very much looking forward to seeing the details" of Japan's stimulus measures. Mr. Rubin and his Japanese counterpart will hold a meeting here Wednesday ahead of the G-7 gathering.

Asked to comment on the Bank of Japan's intervention in foreign-exchange markets last week to strengthen the yen against the dollar, Mr. Rubin said the United States "continues to believe that a strong dollar is important." But he added: "Having said that, Japan is concerned about the weakness of the yen, and that is a concern we share, and that is why we welcomed Japan's intervention last week."

The dollar came under pressure Tuesday in currency markets, with dealers citing the fear of further Bank of Japan intervention. Mr. Rubin's remarks and U.S. data showing stable prices.

Apart from Japan's woes, the other major theme sounded by Mr. Camdessus and Mr. Rubin Tuesday was the need for finance ministers from around the world to take steps to strengthen the "architecture" of the global financial system.

The search for ways to learn from the Asian crisis and from the Mexican financial crisis of 1995 are at the top of the agenda this week in the IMF and G-7 meetings and at a

special meeting of finance ministers from the G-7 and from 15 other emerging economies in Asia, Latin America and Eastern Europe.

Much of the work being done this week on the architecture question will find its way into the annual economic summit meeting of G-7 leaders in Birmingham, England, next month.

"The Asian crisis, coming on the heels of Mexico's crisis," said Mr. Camdessus, "showed the most obvious weaknesses of the present system." He listed these as its vulnerability to crisis, the speed of contagion, the centrality in each crisis of problems in banking supervision and instances of bad governance.

Mr. Camdessus said the IMF's policy-setting Interim Committee would discuss ways to improve information and financial-data flows that improved transparency, changes to the IMF's rules to allow it to press for the liberalization of capital markets and how to equip the IMF for better crisis prevention. He also said that IMF members would be asked to discuss ways of involving the private sector in crisis resolution.

The IMF chief said he expected the Interim Committee to also discuss ways to "give more teeth to IMF recommendations."

On Tuesday, Mr. Rubin said the IMF and other international financial institutions should "consider conditioning access to loans on countries' willingness to improve

their transparency."

Mr. Camdessus, asked whether he thought Indonesia would stick to the latest IMF rescue plan agreed last week after failing to honor the previous two programs, conceded that in Indonesia "there are vested interests that can conspire to delay and sabotage it, and so you must stop and start again."

But he warned that "they know pretty well the cost of not accepting and adhering to it."

Ultimately, said Mr. Rubin, "the most powerful enforcement mechanism is the market, because the availability of capital and price you pay for capital will be affected by your policies."

Mr. Rubin, while suggesting that "the IMF needs to make its analyses and lending conditions more transparent," nonetheless rejected the idea of forcing the IMF to publicly predict formal warnings of crises.

Mr. Camdessus said that achieving more transparency was "a challenge, and we must do better." But he argued that the IMF could not make public "secret information provided by a given country" even if "this can from time to time prevent us from being as transparent as we would like to be."

Mr. Rubin also argued for the IMF to create mechanisms to ensure that when a crisis hit a country, private-sector creditors and investors would "fully bear the consequences of their decisions."

Both the U.S. Treasury secretary and the IMF chief heaped praise on

President Kim Dae Jung of South Korea for sticking to tough reforms and making data on the country's financial system publicly available. Mr. Rubin said the United States was still discussing a possible loan for South Korea to supplement the IMF program.

Mr. Rubin also said that at the G-7 meeting Wednesday the United States would raise the issue of problems related to the preparation of computer systems for the year 2000, especially in terms of making sure national financial systems were well equipped to handle the matter.

Asked what impact Europe's planned single currency would have on the dollar, Mr. Rubin said, "I don't think it will adversely affect the dollar as a reserve currency or as a tool in international finance."

Jakarta Hopes To Keep Control Of State Firms

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

JAKARTA — Indonesia wants to maintain controlling interests in state-owned companies earmarked for privatization under a new reform deal with the International Monetary Fund, a cabinet minister said Tuesday.

Tanri Abeng, the minister in charge of state-owned companies, said a study of the readiness of 12 companies for privatization would be released April 24. He added that President Suharto had ordered the government not to allow its stakes in any of the companies to drop below 51 percent.

Mr. Abeng said the government would cooperate with the World Bank and the IMF on the planned privatization measures to ensure transparency.

Indonesia signed the new agreement with the IMF last week setting out a timetable for economic reform measures in return for \$43 billion of aid.

Separately, analysts said prospects were positive for talks scheduled Wednesday in New York between indebted Indonesian companies and representatives of the foreign banks that lent them \$71 billion. (AP, Bloomberg, Reuters)

T-BILLS: Traders Think Japan Was Behind Record Sale

Continued from Page 1

and sell securities on behalf of other central banks, this was the first time such a customer operation had ever been channeled through the Fed's automated trading system.

At \$12.1 billion, the sale was only \$900 million shy of the amount of bills the Treasury sold at its regular Monday afternoon auction later in the day.

"It was about 9:45 A.M. when the Fed first posted the offering," said Glen Capelo, a trader at Salomon Brothers' New York primary dealership, one of the designated government securities firms with which the New York Fed deals regularly and whose financial condition the bank constantly monitors.

"We had half an hour, to 10:15, to show our numbers" — that is, to

enter a bid for the large number of different securities being sold in roughly half-billion-dollar amounts, Mr. Capelo said.

"It was the first time we have ever seen anything like this before. We hadn't seen the magnitude, nor had they used the automated system that way."

Normally, the Fed does not make public the total amount of securities it wants to sell for a customer, though traders at the primary dealers could easily add up the list of those being offered. But some traders said making the total known may have won the Bank of Japan a better price than if the Fed had tried to sell the securities in repeated waves.

"We act as an agent, and our responsibility is to provide the best service we can for our customer," said Steve Malin, a New York Fed

spokesman. In essence, that means getting the best possible price.

The huge sale — and the potential for others to follow — could ease a looming problem for bond traders, analysts said.

Because the U.S. federal budget is now in surplus, and the Treasury is getting huge inflows of cash during this tax-paying season, it has begun to cut back on its auctions of new securities.

That has created a shortage of some of the securities that global investors use as collateral for multi-billion-dollar transactions. Analysts said putting the \$12.1 billion of bills on the market could relieve that problem.

Going forward, Mr. Capelo said, the Treasury might be able to reduce its weekly bill auctions even more than it has so far.

LAND: Betting on Argentina

Continued from Page 13

buildings and hotels around Argentina at a dizzying pace.

It is also helping restore the capital's shabby river waterfront to a splendor not seen in 60 years. Abasto, a sprawling neighborhood known until recently for muggings and seedy tango bars, is suddenly gentrifying as the Elzstains brothers begin to build a giant high-rise middle-class housing project abutting an even larger shopping center complete with a dozen movie theaters and a children's museum.

IRSA last year swallowed up its biggest competitor and acquired assets valued at more than \$350 million, bolstering its real-estate portfolio to an estimated value of \$800 million, according to a recent report by Bear Stearns Cos.

Now, with local partners in Venezuela and Brazil, the company is taking its mall empire outside Argentina. The cover of its last annual report showed a key entering a lock in the shape of the entire South American continent.

The Elzstains say the economic upheaval in Asia is little more than a speed bump. In the long term, they contend, the sprawling pampas of Argentina will feed a growing Brazil, a Europe that must cut its immensely expensive agricultural subsidies and an Asia that will continue to move away from an agrarian production system as it industrializes.

In recent years, as the Argentine government has slashed farm export taxes, land prices have rapidly appreciated. Nonetheless, they remain considerably less expensive than comparable lands in Canada and the

United States. The company stands to gain from a further escalation of land values, local and foreign analysts say.

"The Elzstains know that Argentina can produce meat, wheat and milk cheaper than the United States," said Osvaldo Cortesi, an agricultural economist at Macroeconomica, a research organization. "They know that as agribusiness expands in Argentina, land prices will rise."

Argentina's share of world beef exports has already doubled since 1993, in large part because of a 400 percent increase in exports to Brazil. With the United States last year opening its market to Argentine beef for the first time in six decades, and with Japan expected to follow soon, international experts say the future for Argentine beef growers looks even brighter.

Since 1990, the country's agricultural exports have climbed 80 percent, to more than \$9 billion last year. Its current annual grain output of 60 million tons is expected to climb to 80 million tons in 2000, according to local and foreign analysts.

Nevertheless, the Elzstains are feeling at least a short-term chill from Asia. Foreign investors have shied away from Latin stocks in recent months, jolting Cresud, which is traded in the form of American depositary receipts on the Nasdaq market, and IRSA, which is traded on the New York Stock Exchange.

The companies' shares are well off their highs of \$24.625 and \$46 reached last year. In late trading Tuesday, Cresud was quoted at \$20.50, up 25 cents, and IRSA at \$36.0625, unchanged.

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12 Month High	12 Month Low	Stock	Div	Yld	PE	100 High	Low	Unadj	Change
12.25	11.75	3M	0.40	3.2	12.5	12.25	11.75	12.25	+0.50
12.25	11.75	4M	0.40	3.2	12.5	12.25	11.75	12.25	+0.50
12.25	11.75	5M	0.40	3.2	12.5	12.25	11.75	12.25	+0.50
12.25	11.75	6M	0.40	3.2	12.5	12.25	11.75	12.25	+0.50
12.25	11.75	7M	0.40	3.2	12.5	12.25	11.75	12.25	+0.50
12.25	11.75	8M	0.40	3.2	12.5	12.25	11.75	12.25	+0.50
12.25	11.75	9M	0.40	3.2	12.5	12.25	11.75	12.25	+0.50
12.25	11.75	10M	0.40	3.2	12.5	12.25	11.75	12.25	+0.50
12.25	11.75	11M	0.40	3.2	12.5	12.25	11.75	12.25	+0.50
12.25	11.75	12M	0.40	3.2	12.5	12.25	11.75	12.25	+0.50
12.25	11.75	13M	0.40	3.2	12.5	12.25	11.75	12.25	+0.50
12.25	11.75	14M	0.40	3.2	12.5	12.25	11.75	12.25	+0.50
12.25	11.75	15M	0.40	3.2	12.5	12.25	11.75	12.25	+0.50
12.25	11.75	16M	0.40	3.2	12.5	12.25	11.75	12.25	+0.50
12.25	11.75	17M	0.40	3.2	12.5	12.25	11.75	12.25	+0.50
12.25	11.75	18M	0.40	3.2	12.5	12.25	11.75	12.25	+0.50
12.25	11.75	19M	0.40	3.2	12.5	12.25	11.75	12.25	+0.50
12.25	11.75	20M	0.40	3.2	12.5	12.25	11.75	12.25	+0.50
12.25	11.75	21M	0.40	3.2	12.5	12.25	11.75	12.25	+0.50
12.25	11.75	22M	0.40	3.2	12.5	12.25	11.75	12.25	+0.50
12.25	11.75	23M	0.40	3.2	12.5	12.25	11.75	12.25	+0.50
12.25	11.75	24M	0.40	3.2	12.5	12.25	11.75	12.25	+0.50
12.25	11.75	25M	0.40	3.2	12.5	12.25	11.75	12.25	+0.50
12.25	11.75	26M	0.40	3.2	12.5	12.25	11.75	12.25	+0.50
12.25	11.75	27M	0.40	3.2	12.5	12.25	11.75	12.25	+0.50
12.25	11.75	28M	0.40	3.2	12.5	12.25	11.75	12.25	+0.50
12.25	11.75	29M	0.40	3.2	12.5	12.25	11.75	12.25	+0.50
12.25	11.75	30M	0.40	3.2	12.5	12.25	11.75	12.25	+0.50
12.25	11.75	31M	0.40	3.2	12.5	12.25	11.75	12.25	+0.50
12.25	11.75	32M	0.40	3.2	12.5	12.25	11.75	12.25	+0.50
12.25	11.75	33M	0.40	3.2	12.5	12.25	11.75	12.25	+0.50
12.25	11.75	34M	0.40	3.2	12.5	12.25	11.75	12.25	+0.50
12.25	11.75	35M	0.40	3.2	12.5	12.25	11.75	12.25	+0.50
12.25	11.75	36M	0.40	3.2	12.5	12.25	11.75	12.25	+0.50
12.25	11.75	37M	0.40	3.2	12.5	12.25	11.75	12.25	+0.50
12.25	11.75	38M	0.40	3.2	12.5	12.25	11.75	12.25	+0.50
12.25	11.75	39M	0.40	3.2	12.5	12.25	11.75	12.25	+0.50
12.25	11.75	40M	0.40	3.2	12.5	12.25	11.75	12.25	+0.50
12.25	11.75	41M	0.40	3.2	12.5	12.25	11.75	12.25	+0.50
12.25	11.75	42M	0.40	3.2	12.5	12.25	11.75	12.25	+0.50
12.25	11.75	43M	0.40	3.2	12.5	12.25	11.75	12.25	+0.50
12.25	11.75	44M	0.40	3.2	12.5	12.25	11.75	12.25	+0.50
12.25	11.75	45M	0.40	3.2	12.5	12.25	11.75	12.25	+0.50
12.25	11.75	46M	0.40	3.2	12.5	12.25	11.75	12.25	+0.50
12.25	11.75	47M	0.40	3.2	12.5	12.25	11.75	12.25	+0.50
12.25	11.75	48M	0.40	3.2	12.5	12.25	11.75	12.25	+0.50
12.25	11.75	49M	0.40	3.2	12.5	12.25	11.75	12.25	+0.50
12.25	11.75	50M	0.40	3.2	12.5	12.25	11.75	12.25	+0.50
12.25	11.75	51M	0.40	3.2	12.5	12.25	11.75	12.25	+0.50
12.25	11.75	52M	0.40	3.2	12.5	12.25	11.75	12.25	+0.50
12.25	11.75	53M	0.40	3.2	12.5	12.25	11.75	12.25	+0.50
12.25	11.75	54M	0.40	3.2	12.5	12.25	11.75	12.25	+0.50
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12.25	11.75	56M	0.40	3.2	12.5	12.25	11.75	12.25	+0.50
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12.25	11.75	60M	0.40	3.2	12.5	12.25	11.75	12.25	+0.50
12.25	11.75	61M	0.40	3.2	12.5	12.25	11.75	12.25	+0.50
12.25	11.75	62M	0.40	3.2	12.5	12.25	11.75	12.25	+0.50
12.25	11.75	63M	0.40	3.2	12.5	12.25	11.75	12.25	+0.50
12.25	11.75	64M	0.40	3.2	12.5	12.25	11.75	12.25	+0.50
12.25	11.75	65M	0.40	3.2	12.5	12.25	11.75	12.25	+0.50
12.25	11.75	66M	0.40	3.2	12.5	12.25	11.75	12.25	+0.50
12.25	11.75	67M	0.40	3.2	12.5	12.25	11.75	12.25	+0.50
12.25	11.75	68M	0.40	3.2	12.5	12.25	11.75	12.25	+0.50
12.25	11.75	69M	0.40	3.2	12.5	12.25	11.75	12.25	+0.50
12.25	11.75	70M	0.40	3.2	12.5	12.25	11.75	12.25	+0.50
12.25	11.75	71M	0.40	3.2	12.5	12.25	11.75	12.25	+0.50
12.25	11.75	72M	0.40	3.2	12.5	12.25	11.75	12.25	+0.50
12.25	11.75	73M	0.40	3.2	12.5	12.25	11.75	12.25	+0.50
12.25	11.75	74M	0.40	3.2	12.5	12.25	11.75	12.25	+0.50
12.25	11.75	75M	0.40	3.2	12.5	12.25	11.75	12.25	+0.50
12.25	11.75	76M	0.40	3.2	12.5	12.25	11.75	12.25	+0.50
12.25	11.75	77M	0.40	3.2	12.5	12.25	11.75	12.25	+0.50
12.25	11.75	78M	0.40	3.2	12.5	12.25	11.75	12.25	+0.50
12.25	11.75	79M	0.40	3.2	12.5	12.25	11.75	12.25	+0.50
12.25	11.75	80M	0.40	3.2	12.5	12.25	11.75	12.25	+0.50
12.25	11.75	81M	0.40	3.2	12.5	12.25	11.75	12.25	+0.50
12.25	11.75	82M	0.40	3.2	12.5	12.25	11.75	12.25	+0.50
12.25	11.75	83M	0.40	3.2	12.5	12.25	11.75	12.25	+0.50
12.25	11.75	84M	0.40	3.2	12.5	12.25	11.75	12.25	+0.50
12.25	11.75	85M	0.40	3.2	12.5	12.25	11.75	12.25	+0.50
12.25	11.75	86M	0.40	3.2	12.5	12.25	11.75	12.25	+0.50
12.25	11.75	87M	0.40	3.2	12.5	12.25	11.75	12.25	+0.50
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12.25	11.75	89M	0.40	3.2	12.5	12.25	11.75	12.25	+0.50
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12.25	11.75	100M	0.40	3.2	12.5	12.25	11.75	12.25	+0.50

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Order	Item	Unit	Quantity	Price	Total
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2	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000
3	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000
4	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000
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8	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000
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66	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000
67	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000
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Tuesday's 4 P.M. Close
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WORLD ROUNDUP



Muster keeping a careful eye on the ball against Filippini.

Muster Holds Form

TENNIS Thomas Muster continued to show improved form Tuesday when he beat Marcelo Filippini, a Uruguayan, in the first round of the Barcelona Open.

Muster had been struggling, but he reached the final of the Estoril Open last week. He was in unusually relaxed mood Tuesday as he won, 6-3, 2-6, 6-2. "Last year I hardly reached a quarterfinal on clay," he said, "so I'm already doing 200 percent better."

Yevgeny Kafelnikov, the top seed, also needed three sets to beat Francis Roig of Spain in the second round. (Reuters)

Cowboys Take Warren

FOOTBALL Chris Warren, a free-agent running back, agreed to a three-year, \$2 million contract with the Dallas Cowboys. Warren, 30, was released by Seattle last month after it signed Ricky Waters. (AP)

Maxwell Starts Jail Term

BASKETBALL Vernon Maxwell, the Charlotte Hornets guard, began serving a 90-day jail sentence in Houston resulting from a 1995 marijuana possession case. (AP)

Stars Sign Injured Star

HOCKEY The Dallas Stars signed injured center Mike Modano to a six-year, \$43.5 million contract. Modano rejected a six-year, \$26 million offer in September. (AP)

Strawberry Blossoms

BASEBALL Darryl Strawberry, the New York Yankee outfielder, was selected player of the week for the first time in seven seasons after hitting three homers and driving in eight runs last week. (AP)

Aussies Salvage Pride

CRICKET Australia beat India by four wickets Tuesday in New Delhi in the final of a tri-nation one-day tournament.

India had beaten Australia in a test series and twice in the preliminary rounds of the one-day tournament. India batted first and made 227 in 49.3 overs. Australia reached 231 for six with eight balls to spare. Mark Bevan was top scorer with 75 not out and captain Steve Waugh hit a rapid 57. (AP)

Striker With a Goal: Turning Juve's Tables

Del Piero Wants Big Money and Wants It Now

By Rob Hughes
International Herald Tribune

LONDON — Disloyalty cuts both ways in professional soccer.

For three successful years, Juventus has operated a policy of *vendere e vincere*, sell and win. This works on the principle that players are as easily replaced as lightbulbs. Season by season the club has sold its star strikers two by two, buying cheaper replacements and relentlessly maintaining omnipotence in Europe, never mind in Italy.

Gianluca Vialli and Fabrizio Ravanelli — who made up the attack that won the Champions' Cup in 1996 — were discarded; Ravanelli, his value lifted by success at Juventus, for \$11 million profit; the veteran Vialli to get him off the payroll.

Alan Boksic and Christian Vieri, their replacements, helped Juve to retain the Italian title and reach the Champions' Cup final last spring; they were sold.

Also thanked for their services, and bid goodbye, were Roberto Baggio, Vladimir Jugovic and, before them, Andy Moeller, Paulo Sousa and Pierluigi Casiraghi. Yet Juventus still leads Italy's Serie A, still frightens everyone else in the Champions' League where on Wednesday it takes an almost unassailable 4-1 lead into the second leg of its semifinal against Monaco.

Now, however, a player has struck back.

Alessandro Del Piero, who scored three of those goals in the first leg against Monaco and made the fourth in, through the inevitable agent, holding a gun to Juve's head. He wants his pay more than doubled, and wants the deal signed and sealed by June. His contract runs for two more seasons, but if he does not sign again with Juve by then he will become the most sought-after free agent in Europe in the year 2000.

To emphasize his point, to drive home to the money men of Turin just how free he might be, Del Piero was in London last week. His adviser made sure there was a photographer around when his boy dined at the exclusive San Lorenzo restaurant with Vialli, who is now player-coach at Chelsea.

This of course was not poaching. Vialli was a mentor to Del Piero in their time together at Juventus. Can't an old pal show his friend the Knightsbridge night life without being accused of wheeling and dealing? As it happens, the money in soccer is nowadays with England's elite clubs, which, playing existing satellite television off against the potential digital rivals, can attract all but the most discerning foreigners.

Ronaldo hasn't — yet — offered his favors to London. Give him, or his posse of salesmen, time. They've done Eindhoven, done Barcelona and are currently doing Milan. Ronaldo has been won in weight in gold and goals to each club in turn. He is still only 21 and commands an annual salary of \$4 million plus. Del Piero, 23, would rather like something similar.

Thus, while Del Piero is in mid-contract, and while his European form is in full bloom, does a gentleman called Andrea D'Amico put the squeeze on Juventus.

D'Amico, representing the legal firm that advises both Vialli and Del Piero, accompanied the Juventus star of the moment to London.

Perhaps dinner at San Lorenzo's was purely social, but it led to lurid articles in Italy, announcing that young "Alex" Del Piero was on his way to the King's

Road club Chelsea for \$27 million. In truth, Chelsea, already the home of Vialli and Roberto di Matteo and Gianfranco Zola, probably could not satisfy the wage demands of Italy's most wanted star.

But perhaps Arsenal, in north London, could. Further north in England, where the class of restaurants might not appeal to one of Europe's most desirable bachelors, Manchester United, Blackburn Rovers, Middlesbrough and Glasgow Rangers flatter themselves that the golden one might associate himself with their teams.

Having made his leak, agent D'Amico insisted: "People cannot think that Alex gets involved in these things. He can only play for the moment and think for the moment. Alex is not someone who has to take this decision."

No? The Del Piero side of the story is that it is Juventus that wants him to sign an extension to the contract because the club wants to protect its assets.

Who could blame Del Piero's management for exploiting the situation? He is an extraordinary player, a young Italian whose 19 goals in three European seasons eclipses the records of Marco van Basten, of Michel Platini, indeed of every goalscorer but one.

Jose Altafini, a Brazilian who became an Italian national and who crowned some great European conquests for Milan and Juventus in the 1960s.

So there is Del Piero, imperious with his right foot free-kicks from any distance up to 35 meters, deadly from the penalty spot and a slender thief of the night in free-play goalscoring positions. He knows, and his agents know, that the time to negotiate is now before, God forbid, a broken leg or merely broken form, makes him another of yesterday's men to be moved on by Juventus.

It would be fun to be a fly on the Juventus wall in the next few weeks when Team Del Piero, the lawyers representing the player, meets at the table of Luciano Moggi and Roberto Betegga, the duo who have so efficiently and so ruthlessly sold such a string of match winners. Betegga was an elegant Juventus player and is an elegant man. Moggi has been likened to Machiavelli, which might be unkind to Machiavelli.

The players Moggi has sold will shed no tears as Del Piero's men squeeze Juventus until it hurts to keep him.

Rob Hughes is chief sports writer for The Times of London.

Let 'Em Come, France Says

Michelle Demessine, the French tourism minister, on Tuesday contradicted advice by the British government to soccer fans. Agence France-Presse reported. Speaking in London, she told British fans to come to France for the World Cup even if they did not have tickets.

She said: "Outside the football stadiums France is celebrating and we want as many people as possible to take part in that."

Another French official contradicted British warnings that all tickets would carry the name and address of the purchaser and supporters presenting them. "All tickets sold do not have a name and address with them necessarily," said Fabien Roussel, a tourism press officer. "There will not be a check of the identity of the person who presents them necessarily."

Tony Banks, the British sports minister, reiterated the "no ticket, no travel" warning to fans: "We are urging fans who do not have a ticket from an authorized source to stay at home."



WHEN PUSHES COMES TO SHOVE — Dmitri Khlestov of Spartak Moscow, left, nudging ahead of Ronaldo of Inter Milan as they chased the ball in Moscow on Tuesday. The Russians could not hold Ronaldo who scored twice as Inter won, 2-1, to advance to the final of the UEFA Cup 4-2 on aggregate. Both teams struggled on a field of mud and sand. The grass had been bulldozed off with the snow that had threatened the match.

What Future for the Stade de France?

By Christopher Clarey
International Herald Tribune

FOR MORE than eight centuries, the most famous structure in the Paris suburb of St. Denis has been its basilica: an early Gothic marvel that was once a burial plot for French kings.

But there is a new building in town — the Stade de France, as elliptical as the basilica is venerable. During soccer's World Cup in June and July, the place that will host the first and final matches of the Cup will attract many more people than the house of worship.

The huge arena's role after the World Cup is much less clear, however. For the moment, the globe's newest major stadium has 80,000 seats, rave reviews from architecture critics — as well as from the International Olympic Committee's president, Juan Antonio Samaranch — and no tenant.

While three French soccer clubs, all in the second division or lower, are candidates, it is clear that the only team in the French capital capable of doing the stadium immediate justice is Paris Saint Germain, the most consistently successful French soccer club in the 1990s. But after a lot of soul-searching and number-crunching, PSG elected last week to remain in the Parc des Princes, the 48,000-seat stadium in the city's 16th arrondissement.

The club's reasoning was the following: It rarely fills the Parc, so how could it fill something bigger? Indeed, with considerable difficulty, it has established a loyal fan base. Why risk alienating those hard-won supporters by moving north and outside the city limits?

In exchange for declining a rent-free, state-of-the-art marvel, PSG has received assurances from Jean Tiberi, the Paris mayor, that at least 150 million francs (\$24.6 million) will be spent to upgrade and modernize the Parc.

Unlike some U.S. football teams which have moved to new, far-away cities, this was a choice between two

stadiums in the same metropolitan area: one ostensibly superior to the other. For a people that has long valued civic grandeur, it was a surprisingly reasonable choice.

"The French are irrational; that's what's irritating," said Pierre Parisot, the Frenchman who is president of the consortium that runs the Stade de France.

CHARLES Bierry, the television executive who is PSG's new chief administrator, said: "Let me be clear about this — we are not staying at the Parc out of spite."

Bierry said he was initially in favor of uprooting and broadening his club's appeal but said that he now thought the Parc could be turned into a more exciting place to watch soccer. "In two years, it will be a stadium in the English style or, better yet, the Parisian style with resources we cannot yet imagine. It will be a center of life and diversion."

The Stade de France, which cost approximately 2.5 billion francs and was funded by the state and a private consortium, will not be devoid of life. The national soccer team has agreed to play there for the next 15 years. So has the national rugby federation, although it has since contested the terms of its agreement. There will be concerts this year by the aging global rock icons, The Rolling Stones, and the aging local rock icon, Johnny Hallyday. All this will fill approximately 15 dates a year, which leaves quite a few free for fretting over the bottom line.

"Eight of the world's 20 biggest stadiums don't have resident clubs," Parisot said. "Wembley does not have one. Does that mean it is a failed project?"

But the gap between Paris and London, where Wembley Stadium lies, is mammoth in sporting terms. While London supports six Premier League soccer teams, Paris supports one first-division team and its suburbs support none, which makes it even more surprising that a club of PSG's caliber rarely sells out a 48,000-seat stadium.

While there are pockets of passion such as Marseille and Lens, average crowds in the French first division are roughly half the size of those in Germany, Italy and England. Most of the top French players, including Zinedine Zidane, Youri Djorkaeff and Lilian Thuram, have left their domestic league for bigger contracts in those nations or Spain, where clubs have greater resources and less oppressive tax burdens.

The question is whether PSG's reluctance to expand its horizons has cemented France's minor-league status in European soccer.

"To create a club for the Stade de France will take at least five years," Noel Le Graet, president of the French league, told France Football magazine. Le Graet said this was a missed opportunity for French soccer. "For PSG, it was not a move to go to the Stade de France. There were possibilities for growth that seemed essential. PSG simply refused to play along. I am disappointed and disillusioned. Only Paris can approach FC Barcelona or AC Milan."

All three clubs that have bid to play in the Stade are in the lower reaches of French soccer and none will be promoted next season. Red Star is near the bottom of the second division. Le Racing Club de France 92 and Saint-Denis-Saint-Leu are in the bottom half of the third division. Though all three clubs have announced plans to reinforce recruiting and merge with powerful corporate partners, it is difficult to imagine any of these clubs drawing 8,000 fans, much less 80,000, or even what Parisot considers the break-even number of 25,000.

The result is that the much-solicited French taxpayer will have to pay more for this architectural gem than planned. But Parisot remains sanguine about the future. "We think that in four or five years, PSG runs the risk of being the second club in the Paris region," he said.

Until then, St. Denis's new and very expensive playground will remain the region's second stadium.

Jordan 'Loses It' And Pacers Win

The Associated Press

CHICAGO — Michael Jordan momentarily lost his cool, and the Chicago Bulls lost a key game in the race for home-court advantage throughout the playoffs.

The Indiana Pacers, meanwhile, showed they were ready for the playoffs and that

NBA Roundup

they could not only defend Jordan but beat Chicago on its home floor.

"We wanted to make them do things they're not used to. We were sure they'd make great plays, but every time they'd go to the hole, we knew we'd have to put a body on them," Reggie Miller said after the Pacers beat the Bulls 114-105 Monday night.

Miller and Jalen Rose scored 22 points each, and the Pacers forced Jordan into 7-of-19 shooting.

The loss, just the fourth at home in 40 games for Chicago this season, hurts the Bulls' chances of having the league's best overall record. Chicago is 60-19 overall, compared with 59-19 for Utah.

The Pacers moved one game ahead of Miami in the race for the No. 2 seed in the Eastern Conference. The Bulls already have clinched the top spot in the East.

Scottie Pippen scored 28 points and Jordan, who got a technical foul for throwing the ball at Indiana's Mark Jackson, had 27. Fouled by Jackson as he was driving to the basket in the third quarter, Jordan fired the ball and hit Jackson in the head.

"I'm not immune to that situation, normally I try to keep a level head in that situation and that time I lost it," Jordan said. "You won't see that often."

Lakers 99, Spurs 75 In San Antonio, Shaquille O'Neal had 28 points and 16 rebounds to lead Los Angeles to a fight-marred victory over the cold-shooting Spurs.

With the Lakers leading handily in the fourth quarter, the game was halted twice in less than 45 seconds for fighting. Will Perdue and Monty Williams for San Antonio, and Derek Fisher and Nick Van Exel for Los Angeles were ejected.

"Maybe they got a little frustrated, but they started taking cheap shots at our point guards," said Shaquille O'Neal, who was 11-for-16 from the field. "They tried taking cheap shots at me, but I'm unbreakable. Nobody can stop me."

The first fight came with 4:46 remaining and resulted in the ejections of Perdue and



The Pacers' Rik Smits, left, blocking Scottie Pippen.

Fisher, who exchanged pushes after Kobe Bryant's dunk shot. Van Exel and Williams were ejected for fighting 44 seconds later after a missed 3-point shot by Van Exel. "It was no big deal," said Gregg Popovich, the San Antonio coach. "It was your typical NBA nobody hits anybody sort of fight. Nobody got hurt and that's the main thing."

San Antonio, which played without David Robinson, who was injured, was led by Tim Duncan with 26 points and 16 rebounds.

Suns 105, Warriors 97 In Oakland, California, George McCloud scored 23 points and the Suns won their ses-

son-high ninth straight game. Antonio McDyess added 22 points and Cliff Robinson had 21 for the Suns, who rallied from 16 points down early to sweep the four-game season series with the Warriors. Jason Kidd just missed a 19th career triple double, finishing with 16 points, 10 assists and nine rebounds.

Timberwolves 107, Clippers 98 In Los Angeles, Kevin Garnett scored 23 points and Anthony Peeler added 21 as Minnesota won its fifth straight.

The Wolves, who have already clinched their second straight playoff berth, are assured of finishing with a 500 record for the first time.

Virtual Race Becomes Real for Cyclist

Native Guatemalan Finds the Paris-Roubaix Fun, but Tough

By Samuel Abt
International Herald Tribune

PARIS — For a rider in his first Paris-Roubaix bicycle race, Anton Villatoro could almost say beforehand, "been there, done that." And he had — almost.

"Every winter in Colorado, with two feet of snow outside, I trained inside to the video of the race," he explained. "Many, many times. This particular race."

Since winter runs a long time in Colorado, Villatoro, 27, figured he had logged many miles in Paris-Roubaix even before he started one for real Sunday with the U.S. Postal Service team.

"This race is more important to me than riding in the Tour de France or the world championships," he said. "I'm here because I want to be. This is a dream of mine, more of a dream of mine than the Tour de France."

Afterward, although he had to drop out about halfway along the 266.5-kilometer (165-mile) course, he was still enthusiastic. "It was fun," he decided. "We had a few problems on the team, crashes and all, but I'm happy with my performance."

Villatoro made a bit of history in Paris-Roubaix when he became what is believed to be the first native of Guatemala to participate. He was born there to a Guatemalan father and an American mother and lived there as a small child before his family moved to Colorado Springs, where he went to high school. He graduated from the University of Colorado in Boulder in 1992 with a degree in international business and marketing.

As a dual national, he rode in the 1996 Olympics for Guatemala, finishing 25th in the time trial, halfway in the field,

"not bad for the first year." Last year he won two stages in the Tour of Guatemala and three races in the United States in a mainly domestic program. This season he will have more of a European schedule, with appearances in several spring World Cup classics, the Tour de l'Oise, the Prudential Tour of Britain and the Vuelta a Espana.

Discussing Paris-Roubaix in advance, he insisted he was not intimidated by the race's 50 kilometers of cobbles.

"This is Paris-Roubaix," he said. "but it's still a bike race. In the United States, everyone thinks this is the only race on cobbles. Then you come over here and realize that a lot of the Belgian races, the Four Days of Dunkirk, the Tour of Flanders, they're all on cobbles, too."

He rode the previous Sunday in the Tour of Flanders, his first World Cup race during his three seasons as a professional with U.S. Postal Service, and he had an exploit: When a group of 15 riders made the first attack and stayed out front for a couple of hours, Villatoro was among them.

"The team wanted to make sure we weren't put in the position where we would have to chase all day" if a Postal Service rider had not been among the breakaway riders. Villatoro was not only protecting his team's leaders but also enjoying himself.

"It was exciting to be in front of the race and experience the crowd," he said. More than halfway through, his legs gave out and he was left behind in the Belgian countryside.

"This sport is so strange, how you can go from an all-time high to an all-time low in one race," he said. "It was

one of the best races of my life in the first part, and then I was off the back, dropped, didn't know where I was, didn't know where I was going or how I was going to get there."

It all worked out when, unusually, a driver gave him a lift to the finish line in time for Villatoro to reach the team hotel and watch the finish of the race TV.

Referring to the long breakaway, he hoped for a similar exploit in Paris-Roubaix. "I did my job in Flanders and did it well, so I was really satisfied. I'm looking for the same here. My personal goal is not only to help the team but finish and be a part of the race."

"I feel I did that at the Tour of Flanders. I could have sat back and maybe I would have been dropped anyway or I could have finished in the pack in 40th place, but I don't know if people would remember me as much as being part of the race."

He knew what he had to do for the team: "Make sure our contenders get to the cobbles with the front group and then be there with them in case they need any assistance. Go out into the wind and help them get to the front."

Villatoro felt later that he did his job, and we kept trying to get our guys to the front," he said. The U.S. Postal Service's three contenders — Slava Ekmov, George Hincapie and Frankie Andreu — all completed the race, with Ekmov the highest placed at 23d.

Unlike his indoor sessions with the Paris-Roubaix video, Villatoro was not there at the finish. For his next exploit, he will have to wait until Wednesday, in the Fleche Wallonne, or Sunday, in the Liege-Bastogne-Liege classic.

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SPORTS

Griffey's 300th Can't Save Seattle

Bullpen Fails Again as Indians Roar Back From 3-Run Deficit to Win

The Associated Press

Ken Griffey hit his 300th career home run, but Seattle's bullpen once again failed to protect a lead as the Mariners lost, 6-5, in Cleveland.

Griffey hit a pair of two-run homers on Monday night, and his second — in the seventh off Jose Mesa — made him the second-youngest player ever to reach 300.

The All-Star center fielder, who has hit at least 40 homers in four different seasons, is 28. Jimmie Foxx was 27 when he hit his 300th. Foxx hit 534 round-trippers during his Hall of Fame career.

Griffey's first homer, combined with a solo shot in the sixth by David Segui, gave the Mariners a 3-0 lead. But the Indians scored six runs in the sixth, taking a 6-3 lead on Brian Giles's three-run homer off Bobby Ayala.

Earlier on Monday, the Mariners fired their pitching coach, Nardi Contreras, replacing him with Stan Williams. The move came a day after Seattle's bullpen blew its second save of the weekend in Boston.

Griffey said he was pleased about his slugging but more concerned about Seattle's 3-9 start. "I just don't like losing," Griffey said. "No matter what happened, a loss is a loss."

The Mariners' bullpen is 0-2 with no saves. In 32 1/3 innings it has yielded 27 earned runs for a 7.44 earned-run average.

Rangers 10, Tigers 1 Lee Stevens hit three home runs, and Bobby Witt got his 100th career victory as a Ranger as Texas beat visiting Detroit.

Stevens hit solo homers in the second and fifth before connecting on a two-run shot in the seventh for his first three-homer game. He walked in the eighth.

attempting to become the 13th player ever to hit four home runs in a game.

Juan Gonzalez added a two-run homer for the Rangers, who have won four of five.

Devil Rays 13, Twins 12 Robert Smith homered in the 14th inning, and Esteban Yan closed with five perfect innings as Tampa Bay overcame a six-run deficit.

BASEBALL ROUNDUP

to win at home against Minnesota. Smith connected off Mike Trombley for his fourth hit.

Red Sox 6, Athletics 3 In Boston, Bret Saberhagen continued his comeback, and Mo Vaughn homered, sending Oakland to its fourth straight loss.

Saberhagen (2-0) sat out all of 1996 after surgery on his right shoulder and spent most of last season in rehabilitation. He allowed two runs and two hits in six innings in chalking up the victory.

Royals 11, Blue Jays 1 Glendon Rusch got his first victory in Kansas City, and Larry Sutton, Shane Mack and Mike Sweeney each homered for the Royals.

In National League games: Marlins 7, Pirates 2 Florida broke an 11-game losing streak, the longest in team history, behind Derek Lee's second grand slam in a week.

"It's good to hear noise in here," Gregg Zaun said of the Marlins' upheaval. "An 11-game losing streak is probably the longest I've ever been part of."

At 1-11, the Marlins were off to the worst start ever by a defending World Series champion.

Lee's grand slam and Cliff Floyd's two-run double were the highlights of a six-run third inning by Florida that

helped Andy Larkin get his first major league victory. He gave up one run and six hits in six innings.

Rockies 8, Reds 4 Colorado won its first home game this season, rallying behind Vinny Castilla's three-run homer off the left-field foul pole in the seventh. The Rockies, who also had a four-run eighth, snapped an eight-game losing streak.

Giants 8, Cardinals 2 In San Francisco, Barry Bonds hit his first homer of the season. Eli Marrero and Willie McGee of the Cardinals hit solo homers in the ninth off Julian Tavarez.

Phillies 11, Braves 8 Rico Brogna hit two homers and drove in five runs as Philadelphia rallied from a 7-1 deficit against visiting Atlanta and won for the sixth time in seven games.

The Phillies scored four unearned runs in the fifth and six unearned runs in the seventh. Brogna's three-run homer in the seventh broke a 7-1 tie.

Padres 1, Diamondbacks 0 Archi Cianfrocco homered and Andy Ashby pitched a four-hitter as the Padres improved to 11-2, the best start in franchise history. Brian Anderson threw a three-hitter for visiting Arizona.

Dodgers 3, Astros 1 In Los Angeles, Hideo Nomo scattered five hits in seven innings, and Wilton Guerrero hit a two-run single to break a 1-1 tie in the seventh.

Raul Mondesi singled off Jose Lima to start the seventh and was hit by Todd Zeile's grounder on a hit-and-run play. Mondesi wasn't called out because, according to a seldom-invoked rule, there would have been no play on the ball.

Zeile was credited with a single and both runners scored on Guerrero's single.



The Dodgers' Hideo Nomo winding up to deliver a pitch to a Houston batter in the second. Los Angeles won, 3-1.

Is Yankee Stadium Crumbling?

New York Times Service

NEW YORK — A 500-pound concrete-and-steel beam suspended beneath the upper deck of Yankee Stadium came loose and crashed into the empty seats below it, prompting city officials to close the stadium.

As a result, the New York Yankees had to postpone two games of a three-game series with the Anaheim Angels. The beam, which weighed about 225 kilograms, fell 30 feet (9 meters) at about 3 P.M. on Monday with such force that it obliterated one seat along the third-base line and left a hole in the concrete below it. Because the stadium was empty, there were no injuries, but the incident prompted a full-scale inspection of the famed sports arena, which will be 75 years old Saturday.

"This could have been a terrible tragedy," Mayor Rudolph Giuliani said, surveying the damage Monday.

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The stadium was closed for about two hours.

Hasek Lifts Sabres Over Flyers, 2-1

The Associated Press

After missing 18 games with a concussion, Eric Lindros, the Philadelphia center, returned and threw his weight around as usual. But he could not beat Dominik Hasek, the Buffalo goaltender.

Lindros had four shots but could not score as the Sabres won, 2-1, Monday night in Buffalo.

"He came out hard," said Lindros. "He was rolling people."

NHL ROUNDUP

over. As the game wore on, we got a few licks on him, and we wore him down."

Lindros was a physical presence from the opening face-off, but in the final period, Buffalo took control, outshooting the Flyers, 12-3.

Hasek, meanwhile, was near the top of his game. He gave up a first-period power-play goal to John LeClair but made 30 saves overall.

The Sabres won it on goals by Curtis Brown and Michael Grosek and held on to fourth place in the Eastern Conference race for home ice in the first round of the playoffs.

"I've got to get my timing back," Lindros said. "I got to get my shot on and start doing things at a higher speed. I'm feeling real good and I think those things will come."

Bruins 3, Hurricanes 2

An-

son Carter had a goal and an assist as Boston dealt another blow to visiting Carolina's playoff hopes. While Boston remained one point behind Buffalo in the race for fourth in the East, Carolina dropped five points behind Ottawa in the chase for the eighth and final spot in the conference.

Spartans 3, Lightning 2 Chris Phillips scored a tie-breaking power-play goal with 4:03 left as Ottawa closed in on a playoff berth with a victory at Tampa Bay. With a five-point lead over Carolina for the final playoff spot in the East, the Senators need only one victory or a loss by the Hurricanes in the last three games to clinch a playoff berth.

Capitals 2, Islanders 0 Olaf Kolzig, the Washington goaltender, stopped 35 shots for his fifth shutout of the season, and Brian Bellows and Andre Nikolicin scored as the Capitals won in New York.

Kings 4, Flames 2 Glen Murray recorded his first National Hockey League hat trick with three consecutive goals, one short-handed and two on power plays, as Los Angeles beat visiting Calgary.

Mighty Ducks 2, Avalanche 2 In Anaheim, Frank Banham's third-period goal lifted the Mighty Ducks to a tie with Colorado. The Avalanche missed a chance to wrap up their third straight Pacific Division title.

First Period: C-Gosnov 4, Second Period: C-Forde 3 (Korostelev, Goulet), 3-A-Sweeney 1 (Parker) Third Period: C-Gosnov 4, Second Period: C-Forde 3 (Korostelev, Goulet), 3-A-Sweeney 1 (Parker) Fourth Period: C-Gosnov 4, Second Period: C-Forde 3 (Korostelev, Goulet), 3-A-Sweeney 1 (Parker) Fifth Period: C-Gosnov 4, Second Period: C-Forde 3 (Korostelev, Goulet), 3-A-Sweeney 1 (Parker) Sixth Period: C-Gosnov 4, Second Period: C-Forde 3 (Korostelev, Goulet), 3-A-Sweeney 1 (Parker) Seventh Period: C-Gosnov 4, Second Period: C-Forde 3 (Korostelev, Goulet), 3-A-Sweeney 1 (Parker) Eighth Period: C-Gosnov 4, Second Period: C-Forde 3 (Korostelev, Goulet), 3-A-Sweeney 1 (Parker) Ninth Period: C-Gosnov 4, Second Period: C-Forde 3 (Korostelev, Goulet), 3-A-Sweeney 1 (Parker) Tenth Period: C-Gosnov 4, Second Period: C-Forde 3 (Korostelev, Goulet), 3-A-Sweeney 1 (Parker) Eleventh Period: C-Gosnov 4, Second Period: C-Forde 3 (Korostelev, Goulet), 3-A-Sweeney 1 (Parker) Twelfth Period: C-Gosnov 4, 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OBSERVER

Just Small Actors

By Russell Baker

NEW YORK — We of the media are desperate for stars. That's why the nation and President Bill Clinton can expect no relief from you know what. Boy, don't we all know what!

If we abandon the story, dear mass audience, what have we left to serve you? In all Congress there is not a single star, not one person whose name is known to any but game-show contestants bawling up for "Jeopardy."

Among the Capitol unknown, I include the House speaker, Newt Gingrich. A year or two ago he approached Clinton in star magnitude. Today, like Bernard Macfadden and Jack Lanne, he is grist for those where-are-they-now pieces in which newspapers remind us who's dead and who's not.

Washington once abounded in what the press calls "colorful characters." There was the great gushing Senator star, Everett Dirksen, "the wizard of ooze," as Time magazine called him.

The Senate also had three Kennedys, Hubert Humphrey, Gene McCarthy and, for color, Olin (Olin the Solon) Johnson and William (Wild Bill) Langer constantly chewing on cellophane-wrapped cigars. It glittered with star power.

Look at Congress now: hordes seemingly groomed, dressed and color-coordinated by the same television makeup cosmetician, and not a star on the landscape.

Washington is filled with serious people engaged in serious business, some of it alarmingly serious. Right now, while the media fret about the president's character, Senate

and president are quietly colluding in a dangerous and costly expansion of NATO, and nobody gives a hoot.

Probably more Americans know who Linda Tripp is than which three countries will extend NATO up to the borders of Russia. But for a few newspapers, the media don't dare bore us with stories like that.

TV can't risk it. (Death to the ratings.) The tabloids couldn't care less. ("Where's the sex angle?") To put it another way, it's competition that keeps us dumb, that very competition that is said to underpin our greatness.

Competition means there isn't time to introduce minor characters unless they garnish tales of the star's adventures. Competition means pursuing the biggest possible audience, which means catering to the lowest common denominator.

The mass audience doesn't readily suffer long-winded dawdling over NATO or stories about who's sabotaging the latest health-care plan. We want stars, not details. This probably explains why the networks' Washington coverage concentrates so intensely on the White House.

The presidency offers a rich variety of TV entertainment themes: the family sitcom, soap opera, eye-popping spectacle, tales of intrigue and foul play. Government, a nuts-and-bolts business, goes unreported because it is not entertainment.

So, who cares what's happening about taxes, all those corporate mergers, Social Security reform, health care, monopolies, the asphaltting of America? When the entertainment is this rich, who can be bothered with such dreariness? We'll scream later.

New York Times Service

A Hillbilly on a Comeback With a Geezer Pass

By Mike Zwerin
International Herald Tribune

NEW YORK — Bob Dorrough is the only 74-year-old hillbilly singer, composer and piano player with a ponytail and a new seven-album record deal. And how many of them would you say have worked with Lenny Bruce, Miles Davis and Sugar Ray Robinson?

In more recent years, he and his buddy the bassist Bill Takas have been flying around the United States on senior citizen tariffs they call "geezer passes."

They enjoy working together as a duo and, frankly, they could not afford a drummer. This did not bother Dorrough all that much because, as that other hillbilly jazzman Chet Baker once said: "It takes a very good drummer to be better than no drummer at all."

In any case, such economy will not be necessary much longer.

His new album, the first of the seven, "Right on My Way Home," has just been released by Blue Note. "Schoolhouse Rock," his educational production dating back to the '70s, is a newly packaged 4-CD box on Rhino Records.

The kids who once loved his voice singing "My Hero Zero" over animated cartoons on Saturday morning television are now in their 30s happily paying music charges in the jazz clubs Dorrough appears in. They elbow each other with nostalgia.

A club called Birdland in the theater district on West 44th Street was packed two nights running late last month when Dorrough made one of his rare New York City appearances. (Notable names dropped in, including the filmmaker Robert Altman, the artist Al Hirschfeld and the actor Gary Goodrow.) Dorrough had worked regularly at the Village Gate and Bradleys, but they both closed.

He likes to "harbor stray animals" on his farm in Pennsylvania's Pocono Mountains, a 90-minute drive from the city. The area reminds him of the hills, rivers and creeks near his home town of Cherry Hill, Arkansas. He had been "scoring heavy advertising bread" recording jingles like "Sing a Can of Beer," so he bought it.

With nothing urgent to go for in New York, it was perhaps a bit too easy to get into the habit of lying back with the philosophy expressed in a song he wrote with Fran Landesman: "I've Got a Small Day Tomorrow (and there's a car I can borrow)."

His voice has been compared to "Nat King Cole doing a Louis Armstrong impersonation."

Dorrough somehow manages to wear his heart on his sleeve, laugh, wink, keep his tongue in his cheek, sing and finger two-handed bebop piano at the same time. "In the old days," he says, with his old-days Arkansas Traveler twang: "I was a bebop student trying to learn 'Half Nelson' like everyone else."

He ran jam sessions with people from Detroit, including Thad and Elvin Jones, in his East 75th Street four-flight walk-up.



Bob Dorrough has finally escaped from his "evil days."

Financially, Dorrough had fallen on what he calls "evil days." He was working Henry Le Tang's Times Square tap dance studio for \$3 a class. One day, Le Tang said "I've got a five dollar gig for you."

Le Tang introduced him to the boxer Sugar Ray Robinson, who had retired and was building a song and dance act. Tap dancers are like drummers with legs and Dorrough liked playing with them. When Le Tang said "play 'Green Eyes' for Sugar Ray," he knew exactly what to do.

Afterward, wiping his brow, Robinson said: "You're going on the road with us."

Dorrough "took it as a command." They traveled with Robinson's hairdresser, valet and road manager; playing theaters in Detroit, Washington, Philadelphia and the Apollo in Harlem on the same bill with attractions like The Dominoes.

"I toured our continent on Count Basie's bus, hung out in Louis Armstrong's dressing room. I met 'Fatha' Hines in Providence."

Wearing a smile that somehow combined lechery with childlike enthusiasm, Dorrough recalled: "Oh, all those beautiful dancing girls. It was wonderful."

Robinson took his revue, billed as "The Champ," to Paris with Dorrough as musical director. They sailed over first class (doing their act en route) on the Ile de France. But they

bombed in Paris ("Larry Adler stole the show"), and when Robinson and his retinue sailed back (second class), Dorrough stayed in Paris to work at the Mays Club for the French franc equivalent of \$11.65 a night. It went a long way in Paris in the '50s. He sighed: "I was in pig heaven."

Lenny Bruce was "a jazz lover but an autocrat too" and Dorrough soon decided to stop spending "A Sick Evening With Lenny Bruce."

After hearing his vocalese adaptation of Charlie Parker's "Yardbird Suite," Miles Davis called "out of the blue" and said: "I want you to write a Christmas song for me." Dorrough took that as a command also. He wrote the anti-Yuletide lament "Blue Xmas," which Miles recorded.

One thing sure — he was taking orders from some sharp cats.

Little Brother Montgomery taught a young white singer named Elaine (Spanky) McFarland about the

Financially, Dorrough had fallen on what he calls "evil days." He was working Henry Le Tang's Times Square tap dance studio for \$3 a class.

blues and she started the group Spanky and Our Gang. Dorrough producing. Their "Sunday Will Never Be the Same" was a hit.

With simultaneous advertising and rock hits came a commission to set the multiplication tables to a backbeat. An agency account executive he knew came up with the concept. "My little boy can't memorize the multiplication tables," he explained. "But he sings along with Jimi Hendrix and the Rolling Stones."

Dorrough had taken an elective called "The New Math" at Columbia University — he knew about the commutative law and he liked the Stones too and he soon realized that he knew more about rock than the account executive.

It led to the successful body of work called "Multiplication Rock" including "Little Twelve Toes" ("If man had been born with six fingers on each hand, he'd also have 12 toes, or so the theory goes").

The premise was expanded to "Schoolhouse Rock," including grammar, America (history and civics) and science — Dorrough producing. Dave Frishberg wrote a song in the American history department that began: "I'm just a bill, yes I'm only a bill, and I'm sitting up here on Capitol Hill."

A folksy grammar song by Lynn Ahrens explained: "A noun is a person, place or thing." And Dorrough sang his "real rocky" science number called "Electricity."

Breaking news: Bob Dorrough has been inducted into the Arkansas Jazz Hall of Fame.

PEOPLE

SON OF John Lennon believes the U.S. government was behind the slaying of his father. "He was a countercultural revolutionary, and the government takes that kind of [stuff] really seriously historically," the 22-year-old Sean Lennon said in the latest New Yorker. Mark Chapman is in prison after pleading guilty to shooting John Lennon in front of his Manhattan apartment building in 1980. Chapman said he was influenced by "The Catcher in the Rye" and a voice in his head that told him "Do it! Do it! Do it!" Sean Lennon said anyone who believed Chapman was "just some crazy guy who killed my dad for his personal interests is insane. I think, or very naive, or hasn't thought about it clearly." Why would the government want his father dead? "He was dangerous to the government. If he had said, 'Bomb the White House tomorrow,' there would have been 10,000 people who would have done it," Lennon said. "These pacifist revolutionaries are historically killed by the government."

The estate of the Washington Redskins owner Jack Kent Cooke has agreed to pay his widow \$20 million to settle her challenge to his will, avoiding a trial that would have revealed embarrassing details about the couple's relationship, sources familiar with the agreement said. The settlement, which has not been ratified in court, provides Marlene Ramallo Cooke with financial security after she was left with nothing in the will that her husband wrote 13 weeks before he died last year. At the same time, the agreement ensures that most of the

estate, estimated at \$500 million to \$825 million, will go to a charitable trust, as Jack Kent Cooke had instructed.

Bruce Willis and Demi Moore won a round in the battle with their former nanny, when a federal judge in Los Angeles threw out a suit filed by Kim Tannahill, who claimed the stars owed her overtime pay for dragging her on trips around the world. Tannahill cared for the actors' three daughters for more than three years. She accused the couple of labor violations, claiming that she was required to go on long trips without receiving additional pay. She also has a case pending in Los Angeles County Superior Court.

Chance to Belt It Out in London

New York Times Service

LONDON — Ever yearn to sing with the Royal Opera? On Sunday that yearning will be easily fulfilled. The invitation to sing at Barbican Hall has been extended to all comers. "From the pitch-perfect to the self-avowedly tone-deaf," Priced at about \$33, some 2,000 tickets to "Sing With the Royal Opera" are being sold for a day of rehearsals led by Terry Edwards, director of the Royal Opera Chorus, followed by a concert alongside soloists of the chorus and the Orchestra of the Royal Opera House.

Snubbed by the Oscars, Leonardo DiCaprio had no trouble finding fans among MTV viewers. The "Titanic" star was nominated for an MTV Movie Award for best male performance. Samuel L. Jackson will be host of the music network's movie awards show, which will be broadcast June 4. DiCaprio was also nominated with co-star Kate Winslet for best screen duo and for best kiss.

Vaudeville was all the rage when Doris Travis lied about her age to join the Ziegfeld Follies. Now 94, she's pulled out her tap shoes for a return engagement. "I dance the same as I did 75 years ago," Travis said. "Maybe not with the same spring in my foot, but my style hasn't changed. I haven't tried any of these new jazz or rock moves!" She headed to New York this week to join five other former Ziegfeld girls for an AIDS benefit at the New Amsterdam Theatre. She was just 14 when she lied about her age to join the Follies.

After ending her 10-season run as a hard-boiled journalist on "Murphy Brown," Candice Bergen did something unlike her character — she sobbed uncontrollably. She said she had been fine up until the day they taped the last show, "and then it hit — I burst into tears in front of George Clooney." Clooney was making a guest appearance on the final episode of the CBS show. "I just had to walk away," she said. "But we're fine now. We had a great time, a great ride."



Sean Lennon says the government had his father killed.



(put on a happy face)

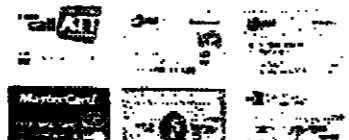
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